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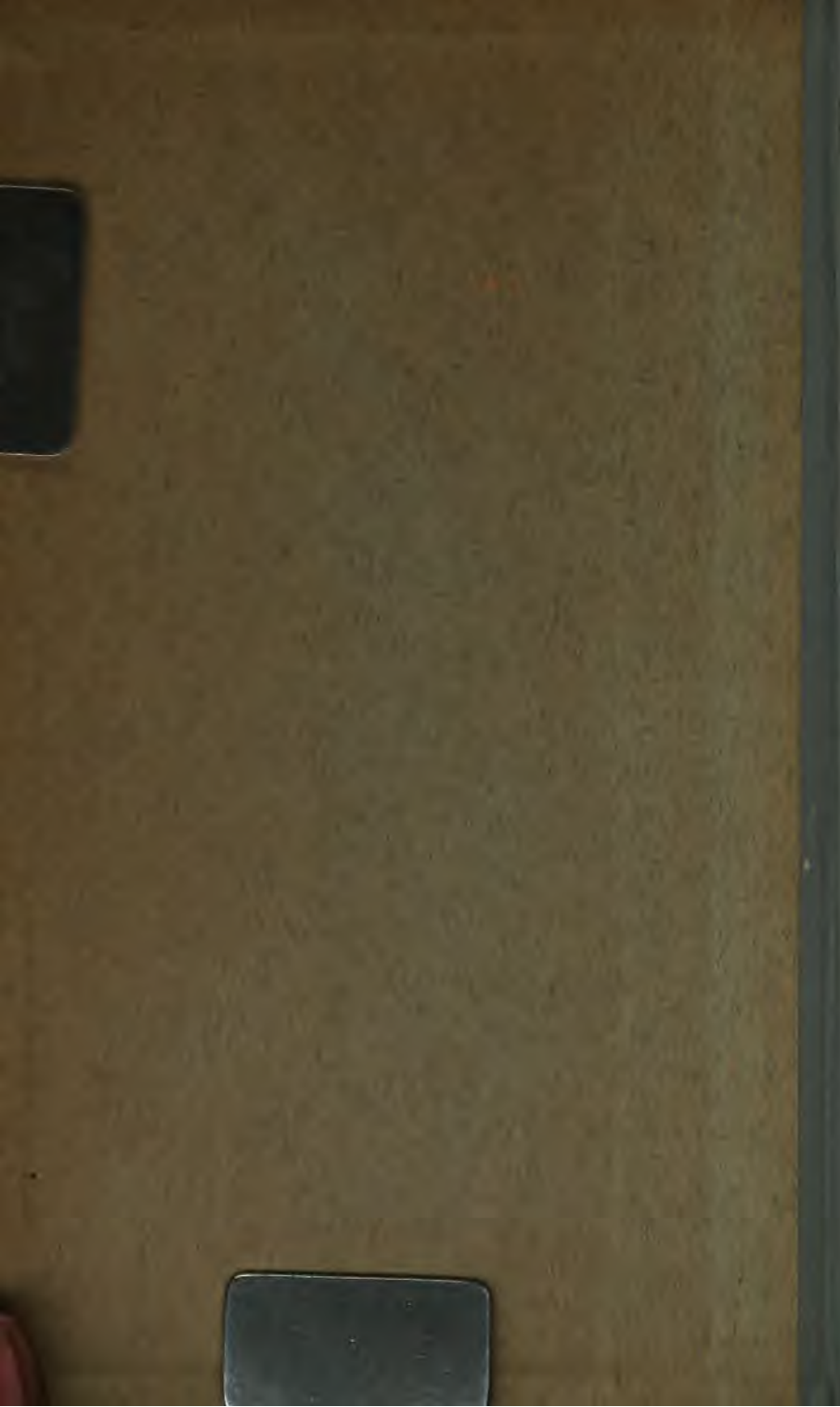
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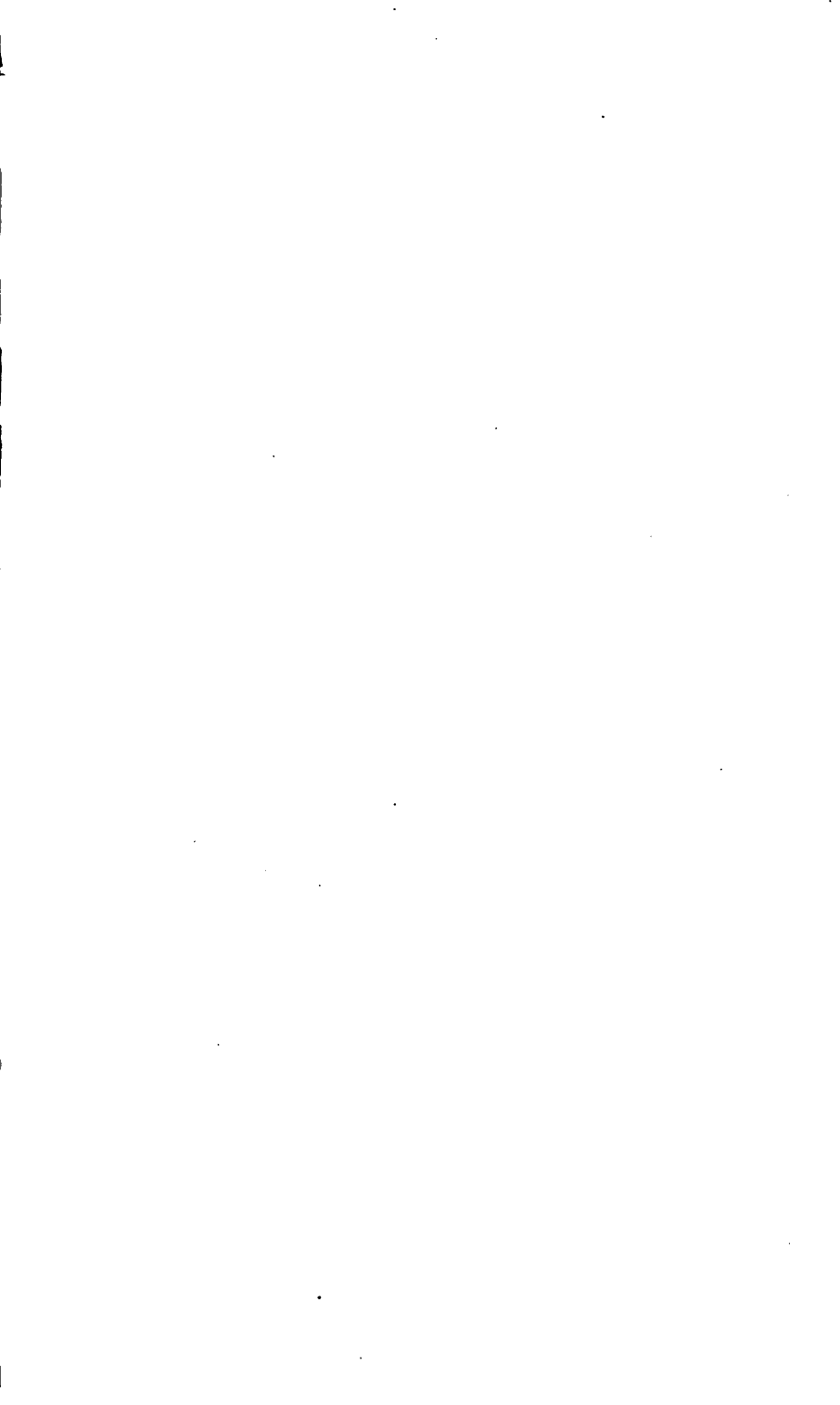
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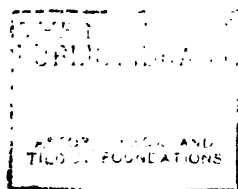
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# Campaign

IN  
**GERMANY AND FRANCE,**

FROM THE  
EXPIRATION OF THE ARMISTICE,

*Signed and Ratified June 4, 1813,*

TO  
THE PERIOD OF THE ABDICATION OF THE  
THRONE OF FRANCE

BY  
NAPOLEON BUONAPARTE;

**With an Appendix.**

CONTAINING ALL THE  
FRENCH BULLETINS ISSUED DURING THIS PERIOD,

And other Official Documents, &c. &c.

---

BY JOHN PHILIPPART, Esq.

*Author of the Northern Campaigns of 1812 and 1813; Memoirs of General  
Moreau; Memoirs of the Prince Royal of Sweden;  
and other Military Works.*

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IN TWO VOLUMES.

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VOL. II.

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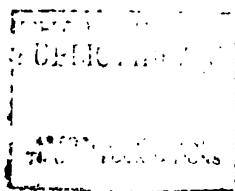
LONDON:

PRINTED FOR C. J. BARRINGTON IN THE STRAND,

AND SOLD BY  
GOLDIE, EDINBURGH, AND C. P. ARCHER, DUBLIN.

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1814.



W. W. W. W. W.  
A. L. L. L. L.  
V. A. S. S. S.



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# Campaign

JN

## F R A N C E.

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1814.

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**MARSHAL** Blucher's head quarters were, on the night of the 27th March, at La-Ferte-Jouarre ; on the following morning his army was to pass the Marne, and the grand army also at Lagny, thus concentrating nearly their whole force on the right bank of the river, and taking position on the heights of Mont-Martre,

The grand Allied army and that of Silesia on the 28th continued their advance to Paris. The 6th corps, the Austrian grenadiers, the guards and reserves, and the cavalry of his Imperial Highness the Grand Duke Constantine, took up their ground in the neighbourhood of Coullay and Manteuil. The 3d corps was at Mouren;

the 5th remained at Chailly with the advanced guard, in the direction of La-Ferté-Gaucher, observing the routes of Sezanne and Provins. The head quarters of the army were established at Cuencey. The passage of the Marne at Meaux was effected by the 6th corps with little resistance. A part of Marshal Mortier's corps, under the immediate command of the French General Vincent, who retired through the above place, broke down the bridge in his retreat, and detained the Allies in their advance. About 10,000 of the national guards mixed with some old soldiers, endeavoured to make a feeble stand before the army of Silesia, between La-Ferté-Jouarre and Meaux; but General Horne attacked them, and placing himself gallantly at the head of some squadrons, he pierced into a mass of infantry, taking himself the French General prisoner. The passage of the river was also disputed at Friport, where the army of the Marshal passed; but notwithstanding the fire of the enemy, the bridge was soon completed, and the whole army passed the Marne on the 28th. The French, on their retreat from Meaux, caused a magazine of powder, of an immense extent, to be blown up, without the slightest information to the inhabitants of the town, who thought themselves buried in the ruins of the place; not a window of the town that was not shivered to

atoms, and great damage done to all the houses, and to the magnificent cathedral.

The corps of Generals D'York and Kleist advanced on the 29th to Claye; the corps of General Langeron was on their right, and General Sachén in reserve; the corps of Woronzoff was in the rear at Meaux. Different bridges were constructed on the Marne, to enable the grand army to file over in various columns. Buonaparte's rear, towards St. Dizier, was assailed on the evening of the 26th, and the morning of the 27th, by a very preponderating force of the enemy's, especially as to infantry, and was obliged to retreat in the direction of Bar-le-Duc.

On the 29th the army of Silesia, having a corps on the Marne, was directed to its right, to advance on the great road of Soissons to Paris; General Count Langeron was on the right, near the village of La Valette; Generals D'York and Kleist moved from the Meaux route into that of Soissons, to make room for Prince Schwartzberg's army; Generals Sachén and Woronzoff were in their rear. On the 28th, in the evening, a very sharp affair occurred at Claye between General D'York and the enemy's rear. The ground they were posted on was very favourable for defence; and in a very severe tirailade,

General D'York lost some hundred men ; but the enemy were driven back at all points. The 6th corps passed at Triport, and reached Bondy at night, and the heights of Pantin. The 4th corps crossed at Meaux with the guards and reserves, and cavalry : the former was immediately directed to gain the high road from Lagny to the capital, and to take post on the heights of Chelle. The 3d corps was to support the 4th ; the 5th moved to Meaux, and remained on the left of the Marne, having their cavalry at Cressy and Colomiers. On the advance of the 6th corps, some slight resistance was made at Villaparis, and as it was necessary to relieve Generals D'York and Kleist, and move them more to the right, a cessation of hostilities for four hours was agreed on by mutual consent ; which delay prevented the march forward being so rapid as usual.

On the night of the 29th, the Allies had their right towards Mont-Martre, and their left near the wood of Vincennes. On the following morning the enemy's army, under the command of Joseph Buonaparte, aided by Marshals Mortier and Marmont, occupied with their right the heights of Fontenoy, Romainville, and Belleville ; their left was on Mont-Martre, and they had several redoubts in the centre ; and on the whole line an immense artillery of above 100 pieces,

In order to attack this position, the Silesian army was directed on Mont-Martre, St. Denis, and the villages of La Valette and Pantin; while the grand army attacked the enemy's right on the heights before alluded to at Romainville and Belleville. Marshal Blucher made his own dispositions for his attack. The 6th corps, under General Reiffski, moved from Bondy in three columns of attack, supported by the guards and reserves, and leaving the great routes of Meaux, attacked the heights of Romainville and Belleville. These are very commanding, as well as Mont-Martre, the ground between being covered with villages and country seats; and the possession of them commands Paris and the whole country round. Prince Eugene of Wirtemberg's division of the 6th corps commenced the attack, and with the greatest spirit endured for a long period a very galling fire of artillery; being supported by the reserves of grenadiers, his Serene Highness, after some loss, carried the heights of Romainville, the enemy retiring to those of Belleville behind them. The 4th corps supported this attack more to the left, and was directed on the heights of Rosny, and on Charenton by the Prince Royal of Wirtemberg. The 3d corps of the army was placed in echelon near Neuilly, in reserve, as well as the cavalry.

The attack of the grand army had commenced some short time before that of the Silesian, delayed by some accident; but it was not long before Generals D'York and Kleist debouched near St. Denis, on Aubeville; and here and at Pantin a very obstinate resistance was made. His Royal Highness Prince William of Prussia, with his brigade, together with the Prussian guards, were much distinguished. The enemy's cavalry attempted to charge, but were brilliantly repulsed by the Brandenburg and black hussar regiments. A strong redoubt and battery of the enemy's in the centre kept General D'York's corps in check for some part of the day; but their right flank being gained by the heights of Romainville, as well as their loss, in every part of the field, and, finally, the complete discomfiture on all sides, reduced them to the necessity of sending a flag of truce to demand a cessation of hostilities, they giving up all the ground without the barrier of Paris, until further arrangements could be made. The heights of Mont-Martre were to be placed by the generosity of a beaten enemy in the possession of the Allies, (Romainville and Belleville) being carried at the moment when Count Langeron's corps was about to storm them, and had already taken possession of the rest of the hill. Count Wo-



ronzoff's division also carried the village of La Valette, charging with two battalions of chasseurs, and possessing themselves of twelve pieces of cannon, were also stopped near the barriers of Paris by a flag of truce.

However, the King of Prussia and Prince Schwartzenberg acceded to entertaining a proposition, to prevent the capital being sacked and destroyed. Count Par, aide-de-camp to the Prince Field-Marshal, and Count Orloff, aide-de-camp to his Majesty the Emperor, were sent to arrange the cessation of hostilities; and Count Nesselrode, his Imperial Majesty's minister, went in at four o'clock on the evening of the 30th, when the battle ceased, to Paris.

At two o'clock in the morning of the 31st Paris capitulated to the Allied Powers, and the Emperor of Russia, King of Prussia, and Prince Schwartzenberg, made their entry at the head of their troops.

The cavalry under the Grand Duke Constantine, and the guards of all the different Allied forces, were formed in columns early in the morning, on the road from Bondy to Paris. The Emperor of Russia, with all his staff, his Generals, and their suites present, proceeded to Pantin,

where the King of Prussia joined him with a similar *cortège*. These Sovereigns, surrounded by all the Princes in the army, together with the Prince Field-Marshal, and the Austrian Etat-Major, passed through the Fauxbourg St. Martin, and entered the barrier of Paris about eleven o'clock, the Cossacks of the guard forming the advance of the march, and were received by the Parisians with great enthusiasm.

Buonaparte moved his army from Troyes by Sens, towards Fontainebleau, where the debris of Marshals Mortier and Marmont's corps joined him, and they would have been in Paris, had it not been in possession of the Allies. On hearing what had occurred, he retired to Corbeil, and from thence collected his army in the neighbourhood of Fontainebleau.

*The following is the Capitulation of Paris.*

"The four hours armistice which had been agreed upon, for the purpose of treating on the conditions relative to the occupation of Paris, and to the retreat of the French corps therein, having led to an arrangement to that effect, the undersigned, after being duly authorized by the respective commanders of the opposed forces, have adjusted and signed the following articles:

**Art. 1.** The corps of the Marshals Dukes of Treviso and Ragusa shall evacuate the city of Paris on the 31st of March, at seven o'clock in the morning.

**Art. 2.** They shall take with them all the appurtenances of their corps d'armée.

**Art. 3.** Hostilities shall not recommence until two hours after the evacuation of the city; that is to say, on the 31st of March, at nine o'clock in the morning.

**Art. 4.** All the arsenals, military establishments, workshops, and magazines, shall be left in the same state that they were in previous to the present capitulation being proposed.

**Art. 5.** The national or city guard is entirely separated from the troops of the line; it is either to be kept on foot, or disarmed, or disbanded, according to the ulterior dispositions of the Allied Powers.

**Art. 6.** The corps of the municipal gendarmerie shall in every respect share the fate of the national guard.

**Art. 7.** The wounded and the stragglers re-

maining in Paris after seven o'clock, shall be prisoners of war.

Art. 8. The city of Paris is recommended to the generosity of the high Allied Powers.

Done at Paris the 31st of March, at two o'clock in the morning."

(Signed)

"Count ORLOFF, Aide-de-camp of his Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias.

Colonel Count. PAAN, Aide-de-camp-general of Marshal Prince Schwartzenberg.

Colonel BAROY FARRIER, attached to the Etat-major of his Excellency the Marshal Duke of Ragusa.

Colonel DENYS, first Aide-de-camp of his Excellency the Marshal Duke of Ragusa."

#### " DECLARATION

"The armies of the Allied powers have occupied the French capital. The Allied Sovereigns meet the wishes of the French nation: they declare, that if the conditions of the peace required

stronger guarantees when the object in view was the restraining of Buonaparte's ambition, they ought to be more favourable, as soon as, by returning to a wise government, France herself shall offer the assurance of tranquility. The Allied Sovereigns proclaim, therefore, that they will treat no more with Napoleon Buonaparte, or with any of his family :—that they respect the integrity of ancient France, such as it existed under her legitimate Kings; they may even do more, because they always profess the principle, that, for the happiness of Europe, France ought to be great and strong :—that they will recognize and guarantee the Constitution which the French nation shall give itself. They accordingly invite the senate to appoint a provisional government capable of providing for the wants of administration, and of preparing such a Constitution as may be adapted to the French people. The intentions which I have expressed are common to me, with all the Allied Powers."

"ALEXANDER."

"By order of his Imperial Majesty,

The Secretary of State,

COUNT DE NESSELRODE."

"Paris, March 31, 1814,

*At three o'clock in the Afternoon."*

The Senate lost no time in accepting the invitation contained in the above address of the Emperor Alexander; they assembled on the 1st of April and chose a committee of five members, with Talleyrand, Prince of Benevento, at their head, to form a provisional government, and decreed that the Emperor Napoleon had ceased to reign. When this decree was communicated to Buonaparte he proposed to abdicate in favour of his son, but that offer having been rejected he gave in the following declaration:—

“ The Allied Powers having proclaimed that the Emperor Napoleon was the only obstacle to the re-establishment of the peace of Europe, the Emperor Napoleon, faithful to his oath, declares that he renounces the thrones of France and Italy, and that there is no personal sacrifice, even that of life, which he is not ready to make to the interest of France.”

“ Done at the Palace of Fontainebleau,  
*April 6, 1812.*”

---

Extraordinary and unanticipated events have followed so rapidly on the receding steps of each other, that in the bustling wonder of the moment,

contemplation has scarcely been able to find a place.

Defeat and mortification having once broken upon the "Great Captain" of modern warfare, they have pursued him with an unrelenting rigour.

The pages of history produce numberless instances of the overthrow of States, the destruction of well organized armies, and the degradation of triumphant tyranny: but the distinguished soldier, Buonaparte, had blended his achievements and his policy with such consummate skill, had cemented his fate with so much apparent firmness to one of the proudest and most exalted Royal Houses in Europe, that in his fall from power, majesty, and almost universal domination, all speculation is put aside; and we can only repeat the emphatic sentence—"God wills it."

If we look back a few short months, we shall find him at the head of a brave, invincible, and countless army, grasping the sceptre, and wearing the crown of St. Louis; admired even by those who had most reason to execrate him, for his military glory, his powerful government, his daring activity of soul:—possessing the person and the affections of an amiable and illustrious



princess:—and behold him now hurled from his vast elevation, deserted by his friends and brethren in arms, separated from his wife, his bright fame as a soldier sullied and disputed,—a prisoner; an exile; an outcast. Better had he perished amidst the innocent instruments of his unprincipled aggression on the banks of the Berezyna, than been reserved for a conclusion so worthless and degrading.

The workings of this extraordinary man's mind, when misfortunes for which he was unprepared fell upon him, will offer a boundless scope for the speculations of the contemplative observer of human turpitude. That he sustained his reverses with temper is undoubted; but from what source his patience was derived remains yet to be annalized. It is not from religion, because he had openly apostatized himself and forsaken his Redeemer: not from magnanimity; because there are few instances of his being susceptible of that exalted and kingly principle: not from the honest pride of conscious rectitude, for unto what crimes had his ambitious spirit not betrayed him. But perhaps it arises from the idea of a resurrection of his fortunes, an idea formed on his knowledge of the people he has governed, and the characters of those whom he raised to power and greatness; who deserted.


him in misfortune; and who, when deprived of the confidence of their new King, stripped of their dignities, and rendered insignificant objects, may look back with regret to the man who gave them affluence and weight in the counsels and government of France.

But this is an idea we must hope and believe to be most chimerical. The French nation have returned to their allegiance: let them be true friends to their country, themselves, and their King, and every Briton will readily acknowledge virtue so long in obscurity.

It would be fortunate if the crimes and punishments of our fellow beings had the effect of rendering mankind better: then would not so many victims to treachery and cruelty suffer in vain; but although Divine retribution is continually at work, it is yet no lesson for man. We have seen in a few fleeting years, the man who has dethroned legitimate kings by a dash of his pen, or the breath of his lips, driven from his grandeur, and hunted like a tyger to his retreat, with the curses and hatred of his injured subjects. And of all the thousands who grew rich and great beneath his protecting eye, and conquering sword, but one remained (General Bertrand) to share his exile and partake his adversity. Such

is the friendship of the flagitious! Unlike the meek and pious Louis XVIII. he, who when reduced to accept a shelter in a foreign land, was honoured by the enemies of his country, and soothed by the tender offices of friendship and affection.

The fall of Napoleon Buonaparte is indeed a practical admonition to man in general, and to Princes in particular. And it will be happy for Europe if the present Illustrious Monarch of France, Louis XVIII. is delicate in admitting to his confidence, and to power, men who, by their conduct through life, by their treachery and deceit, have proved themselves unworthy of either respect or consideration.



## APPENDIX.

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**I**N the second volume of the "Northern Campaigns," I have introduced all the Bulletins issued by Buonaparte from the invasion of Russia to the conclusion of the armistice. Of the French Bulletins issued during the campaign of 1813, thirty-four are given in my former Work. The following were issued previous to the expiration of the armistice.

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### THIRTY-FIFTH BULLETIN.

*Paris, June 26, 1813.*

Her Majesty the Empress, Queen, and Regent, has received the following intelligence from the army, dated the 21st June:—

The 8th corps, commanded by Prince Poniatowsky, which traversed Bohemia, has arrived

at Zittau, in Lusatia. This corps consists of 18,000 men, of whom 6000 are cavalry. All the requisite orders have been given to complete their clothing, and furnish them with every thing of which they stand in need. His Majesty went on the 20th to Pirna and Königstern. President de Kaas, sent by the King of Denmark, has received his audience of leave, and set out for Dresden.

The Prussian free corps, raised in the same manner as those of Schill, have continued since the armistice to levy contributions, and arrest insolated men. The armistice was signified to them on the 8th, but they declared they would make war on their own account; and as they have continued the same conduct, several columns have been sent against them. Captain Lutzow, who commanded one of those bands, has been killed, 400 of his men were killed or taken, and the remainder dispersed. It is not supposed that 100 of these brigands succeeded in repassing the Elbe. Another band, commanded by Captain Colombi, is completely surrounded, and it is to be hoped that in a few days the left bank of the Elbe will be entirely purged of the presence of those bands, who are guilty of all kinds of excesses towards the unfortunate inhabitants. The officer sent to Custrin has returned. The gar-

rison of that place consists of about 5000 men, and has only 150 sick. The fortress is in the best state, and provisioned for six months in corn, rice, vegetables, fresh meat, and all the necessary objects. The garrison has always been master of the place to the distance of 1000 toises. During these four months the commandant did not cease to labour in augmenting the means of his artillery, and the fortifications of the place. All the army is encamped. This repose is of the utmost advantage to our troops. The regular distribution of the rice greatly contributes to support the health of the soldiers.

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#### THIRTY-SIXTH BULLETIN.

##### *Situation of the French Army.*

*Paris, June 29th, 1813.*

Her Majesty the Empress, Queen, and Regent, has received the following news from the army, dated Dresden, June 24th:—

Captain Planat, an officer of the staff, charged with carrying intelligence of the armistice, has arrived at Dantzic. He had much difficulty in getting into the place, because General Rapp,

the Governor, fatigued by the great number of flags of truce which the enemy sent every day, had declared that he would receive no more of them. The officer, therefore, had considerable difficulty in making himself known.

It would be difficult to describe the joy which his presence caused that fine and numerous garrison, which is far from having the appearance of a besieged fortress; it is master of all the neighbourhood. The rations, which are to be furnished it during the armistice, have been fixed at 20,000 each day, which has with justice caused remonstrances on the part of the Governor. Several times that garrison, during the five months blockade, threw shells into the enemy's head-quarters, and, as one may say, besieged him.

General Rapp has formed a good battalion of foot-guards, which is composed of fatigued or frozen men who took refuge in the fortress. The fortress has sufficient provisions for a year; military men estimate that it could resist open trenches for three months, even supposing that the enemy had a besieging train of 200 pieces of cannon, and without calculating the delay which the sorties from the garrison could occasion to the operations of the siege.

But up to that hour, the enemy had in no manner shewn an intention of attempting so difficult an enterprize.

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**THIRTY-SEVENTH BULLETIN.**

*Paris, July 2, 1813.*

Her Majesty the Empress, Queen, and Regent, has received the following intelligence respecting the situation of the army on the 25th of June:—

On the 24th, the Emperor dined with the King of Saxony, and in the evening the French comedians gave in the Court Theatre one of Moliere's pieces, at which their Majesties were present.

The King of Westphalia has arrived at Dresden to see the Emperor.

On the 25th, the Emperor visited the different debouches of the Forests of Dresden, and travelled about twenty leagues. His Majesty set out about five in the afternoon, and returned at ten in the evening.

Two bridges have been thrown over the Elbe, opposite to the fortress of Konigstern. The



Rock of Silienstern, which is upon the right bank, within half cannon-shot of Konigstern, has been occupied and fortified. Magazines and other military establishments have been prepared in that interesting position. A camp of 60,000 men, thus leaning upon the fortress of Konigstern, and being able to manœuvre upon both banks, would be unattackable by any force whatever.

The King of Bavaria has established round Nymphenberg, near Munich, a camp of 25,000 men.

The Emperor has given the command of the Bavarian corps of observation to the Duke of Castiglione. This army has assembled at Wurtzburg. It is composed of six divisions of infantry, and two of cavalry.

The Vice-Roy is assembling between the Piave and the Adige the army of Italy, composed of three corps. General Grenier commands one of them.

The new corps which has just been formed at Magdeburg, under the command of General Vandamme, already consists of forty battalions, and eighty pieces of artillery.

The Prince of Eckmühl is at Hamburg. His corps has been reinforced by troops coming from France and Holland, so that upon that point there are more troops than there ever were. The Danish division, which has joined the Prince of Eckmühl, consists of 15,000 men.

The second corps, which the Duke of Belluno commands, had but one division during the campaign which has just finished; this corps has been completed, and the Duke of Belluno now commands three divisions.

Circumstances were so urgent at the commencement of this campaign, that battalions of the same regiment were disseminated into different corps. All has been regulated, and every regiment has its battalions united. Every day a great number of battalions on their march, which pass the Elbe at Magdeburg, arrive at Wittemberg, Torgau, and Dresden. His Majesty daily reviews those which arrive at Dresden.

The military equipages of the army are now either in caissons of the old model, or in caissons of the new model (called No. 2.) or in carriages *a la cintoise*, in which provisions are conveyed for the whole army for a month. His Majesty has discovered that the carriages *a la cintoise*, as well as the caissons of the ancient model,

have inconveniences, and has ordered that the equipages, as they may henceforth require replacing, shall be established upon the model of the carissons, No. 2, drawn by four horses; and which easily carry twenty quintals. The army is provided with portable mills, weighing sixteen pounds, and each capable of making five quintals of meal daily; three of these mills have been distributed to each battalion. They are working with the greatest activity in augmenting the fortifications of Glogau. His Majesty wishes to make that town a regular fortress, and as the plan is defective, he has ordered it to be covered by three crowns, by nearly following the method which Senator Count Chassiloup has put in practice at Alexandria. Torgau is in good condition. They are also working with great activity in fortifying Hamburg: the General of Engineers, Haxo, has proceeded thither to mark out the citadel, and establish in the islands works to connect Hamburg with Harburg.

The engineers of bridges and causeways are constructing there two flying bridges upon the same system as those at Antwerp, one for the flowing, the other for the ebb tide.

A new fortress upon the Elbe has been traced out by General Haxo, on the Virden side, at the mouth of the Havel. The forts of Cuxhaven,

which were in a condition to support a siege, but which were abandoned without reason, and which the enemy had razed, are re-building. They are actively employed on them; they will no longer be simple inclosed batteries, but a fort, which, like the Imperial fort at the Scheldt, will protect the arsenal for construction, and the basen, the establishment of which have been projected upon the Elbe; since that, the Engineer Beaupre, who employed two years in sounding that river, discovered it had the same properties as the Scheldt, and that the largest squadrons could be constructed in it, and collected in its roads.

The 8d division of the young guard, which General Laborde, an officer of consummate merit, commands, is encamped in the woods, in advance of Dresden, upon the left bank of the Elbe.

The 4th division of the young guard, which General Frant commands, debouches by Wurtzburg. Some regiments of that division have already passed that town, and marched towards Dresden.

The cavalry of the guard already reckons more than 9,000 horses. The artillery consists already of more than 200 pieces of cannon. The

infantry forms five divisions, four of which are of the young, and one of the old guard.

The 7th corps which General Regnier commands, composed of Durette's division, which is a French division and two Saxon, is receiving its complement. This corps is encamped in advance at Goerlitz. All the Saxon light cavalry have joined it, and are also going to be completed. The King of Saxony has completed his two fine regiments of cuirassiers to their full complement. His Majesty has been extremely satisfied with the Kings and Grand Dukes of the Confederation. The King of Wirtemberg has particularly distinguished himself. He has made, considering his ability, efforts equal to those of France, and his army, infantry, cavalry, and artillery, have been carried to its full complement. Prince Emile of Hesse Darmstadt, constantly distinguished himself in the last campaign, and in the present, by great *sang froid* and intrepidity. He is a young Prince of promise, whom the Emperor greatly esteems.

The Princes of Saxony alone are in arrear with their contingent. Not only is the citadel of Erfurth in good condition and well provisioned, but the fortifications of the town have been re-established; they are covered by advanced walls, and henceforth Erfurth will be a strong place, and of the first importance.

The congress is not yet assembled; we, however, expect that it will in a few days. If a month has been lost, the fault is not with France.

England, who has no money, has not been able to furnish any to the coalesced powers; but she has just concerted a new expedient—a treaty has been concluded between England, Prussia, and Russia, by means of which a new paper for several hundred millions will be created, guaranteed by the three powers.

It is upon this resource they depend for meeting the expences of the war.

In the separate articles, England guarantees a third of this paper, so that in reality it is a new debt, added to the English debt.

It remains to be known in what country this paper will be issued. When this luminous idea was conceived, it was probably conceived that this emission would take place at the expence of the Confederation of the Rhine, and even of France, Holland, Belgium, and the department of the Rhine. Nevertheless, the treaty has not on that account not been ratified since the armistice.

Russia pays the expences of her army with

paper, which the inhabitants of Prussia are obliged to receive; Prussia herself pays her debt with paper. England likewise has her paper: it appears that each of these isolated papers has no longer sufficient credit, as those powers have come to the resolution of erecting a common one. It remains for the merchants and bankers to inform us, if the credit of the new paper is to increase by the credit of the three powers, or rather if the credit is to be the quotient of it.

Sweden alone appears to have received money from England, to from 5 to 600,000 pounds sterling.

The garrison of Modlin is in a good state. The fortifications have been augmented. We have decyphered, at head-quarters, the two reports from the governors of Modlin and Zamose. The garrisons of those two fortresses remained masters of the country a league round them. The troops who blockaded them being only badly armed and equipped militia.

The Emperor has taken into his pay Prince Poniatowski's army, and given it a new organization. In less than twenty days it will be fresh equipped and in good condition.

However brilliant this situation may be, and

although his Majesty has really more power than ever, he only on this account desires peace with more ardour.

The administration has purchased a great quantity of rice, in order that during the excessive heat this product should constitute a quarter of the soldiers' rations.

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#### THIRTY-EIGHTH BULLETIN.

*Paris, July 5th, 1813.*

Her Majesty the Empress, Queen, and Regent, has received the following intelligence from the army.

Count de Metternich, Minister of State and of conferences to his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, has arrived at Dresden, and already had several conferences with the Duke of Basano. Russia has just obtained from the King of Prussia, that Russian paper should have a forced circulation in the Prussian states; and as the Prussian paper is already at a discount of 70 per cent. this ordinance does not appear calculated to raise the credit of Prussia. The city of Berlin is tormented in every possible manner, and every day those vexations are more felt in it. This capital already compares its situation



to that of several towns in France in 1793. His Majesty the Emperor on the 28th made an excursion of eight or ten hours length, in the environs of Dresden. We have received accounts from Zamosse and Modlin. These fortresses are in the best condition, whether considered in respect to provisions, warlike stores, or fortifications.

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#### THIRTY-NINTH BULLETIN.

*Paris, July 21st, 1813.*

Her Imperial Majesty the Empress, Queen, and Regent, has received the following intelligence from the army :

“ The Duke of Vicenza, grand équerre, and Count De Narbonne, ambassador from France to Vienna, have been appointed by the Emperor his ministers plenipotentiary at Prague.

“ Count de Narbonne set out on the 9th.

“ It is supposed the Duke of Vicenza will set out on the 18th.

“ The privy counsellor d’Anstett, plenipotentiary from the Emperor of Russia, arrived at

Prague on the 12th. A convention had been signed at Neumarkt for the prolongation of the armistice to the middle of August.

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## OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION.

*Paris, July 23, 1813.*

Her Majesty the Empress yesterday set out for Mayence.

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## FRENCH DOCUMENTS RELATIVE TO THE WAR WITH SWEDEN AND AUSTRIA.

*Report to his Majesty the Emperor and King on  
the War with Sweden.*

Sire!

Your Majesty, by a treaty signed at Fontainebleau on the 31st October, 1807, with the King of Denmark, guaranteed to that Sovereign the integrity of his dominions. Although those engagements were known by Sweden, she offered in 1807 to make common cause with France in the war she was preparing against Russia, if your Majesty would consent to guarantee Nor-

way to her, which she coveted, without other rights, without other titles than her convenience. Your Majesty considered this proposition as an affront. No consideration could induce you to betray the interest of your ally.

Sweden had to seek elsewhere a support which your Majesty refused to her ambition. She joined your enemies to rob your ally; she proposed to Russia, as the price of her good offices in taking part in the war against France, the employment of forces that would insure to her the acquisition of Norway. A special article of the treaty signed at Petersburg on the 24th of March, 1812, determined, that in the event of Denmark consenting to the cession of Norway, indemnities would be granted her, which could only be taken from the French territory. These engagements, unexampled in the annals of nations, have become common to England; and by a transaction on the 3d of last May, that power acceded to the conventions already existing between Russia and Sweden, and guaranteed the uniting of Norway to his Swedish Majesty's dominions. By these two treaties, Sweden placed herself in a state of war against your Majesty; but already for a long time she had violated the treaty of the 6th of January, 1810. Forgetting the generous conditions your Ma-

jesty had granted her—despising the obligation she had contracted, as the price of the restoration of Swedish Pomerania, of shutting her ports against English commerce—she opened them to it the very same year: they became true English colonies; British consuls resided in them; and although Sweden had declared war against England, the fleets and convoys of that power freely entered and remained in her roads. Colonial produce and English goods accumulated in the ports, to be transported into Pomerania, and from thence inundate the Continent. This was not enough for Sweden; she came to open acts against your Majesty's subjects; they were assassinated in the port of Stralsund, without it being possible to obtain sufficient reparation for this offence. Two vessels, bearing your Majesty's flag, were ill-treated in the open sea by ships belonging to the Swedish marine: one of them, the *Mercury*, attacked by main force in the Sound by the brig of war, the *Venta Lille*, was conducted into a Swedish port, where her crew were put in irons. All the representations from your Majesty's government having been useless, you ordered that Pomerania should be occupied till the moment that Sweden should have given that satisfaction which she owed to the dignity of your crown. Your Majesty regretted using rigour towards a nation that you

esteem, and which for nearly 200 years had followed the system of France. Those dispositions, Sire, which had no other object than to bring back to more just sentiments a friend who misunderstood his obligations, struck at an enemy already engaged against us. It is in execution of these engagements, the principal stipulations of which I am going to place before your Majesty, that the Swedish troops, at the commencement of this campaign, dared to invade the French territory. Your Majesty, by a new treaty with Denmark, drawing closer the bonds which attach you to that power, and uniting yourself more closely to her cause, has taken the reciprocal engagement of declaring war against Sweden. I propose to your Majesty to cause the state of war between France and Sweden to be published, and at the same time to order that the treaty of the 10th of July last, concluded between France and Denmark, be communicated to the Senate, and promulgated as the law of the State, conformably to our constitutions.

(Signed) The Duke of BASSANO,  
Minister for Foreign Affairs.

*Dresden, Aug. 20. 1813.*

(A true copy.)

[Here follows the treaty concluded at Copenhagen on the 10th of July, 1813, between Baron

Alquier and Niels Rosenkranz, which reciprocally guarantees the integrity of the territories of the contracting powers, whether European or colonial, and declares war by France and Denmark against Russia, Sweden, and Prussia.]

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*Report to his Majesty the Emperor and King on  
the War with Austria.*

Sire,

The first war of Austria against France lasted six years: it was terminated by the preliminaries of Leoben. The French army was then master of Holland, of Belgium, the banks of the Rhine, the Italian provinces belonging to Austria, of the county of Gorice, of Istria, of Styria, of Carinthia, of Carniola, of the Tyrol: it was upon the heights of Sumering-Berg, at a short distance from Vienna, which the court had already abandoned.

The moderation of the conqueror appeared a guarantee for the duration of peace; but scarcely had fifteen months passed, when they succeeded in persuading the cabinet that every thing was changed in France, a French army was on the Nile, and the disorder of the interior administra-

tion had led to the disbanding of a great part of the troops. Austria flew to arms.

The treaty of Luneville put an end to the second Austrian war, which lasted two years. The French armies were upon the Saave, and at this same Leoben, where the first Austrian war was terminated.

We now flattered ourselves peace would be of long duration; we wished to believe that the Austrian cabinet, having been induced to break the engagements made at Leoben, by a consideration of the condition in which the interior of France then was, would no longer have any motive to break the peace, when those circumstances no longer existed.

France consecrated all her efforts to the re-establishment of her marine, and to the preparations directed against England.

Italy was without troops, and our military state was upon the peace establishment. Our only army was assembled at Bayonne. The cabinet of Austria forgot past lessons; it coalesced with Russia and England, and the Austrian armies marched upon Bavaria. The French army was quickly master of the capital,

and three-fourths of the monarchy. You could have dictated hard terms; you consented to moderate conditions; and the treaty of Presburg was signed in the capital of Hungary.

The third Austrian war was thus terminated in three months: it finished like the third Punic war, by the taking of the capital. This unfortunate city not having partaken the passions of its cabinet, a stranger to the ambition which had dictated the policy of it, lamented the faults of which it was the victim, and was the object of the conqueror's regard.

We persuaded ourselves that the cabinet of Vienna, enlightened by experience, would henceforth think but of preserving peace. But four years after your Majesty was in Spain, and Austria placing her confidence in the immense armaments which she had so long been preparing, having 400,000 men under arms, seeing no army which was able to prevent her from arriving almost on the banks of the Rhine, did not examine whether a new war would be just; she only calculated the chances of it: she believed success certain, and determined alone by this consideration, invaded Bavaria.

In three months the French army carried its



conquests into Hungary and Moravia, occupied a second time the capital, and was master of the greater part of the territory of the monarchy. The existence even of the empire of Austria was compromised: but the views of the Emperor were constantly directed to one single end—that of forcing England to at last acknowledge the maritime rights of all nations, without which there can neither exist equilibrium nor repose in Europe; he consented to sign the treaty of Vienna, which concluded the fourth Austrian war, and the moderation of which astonished the world. If we did not believe that peace would be eternal, we at least flattered ourselves it would be of a long duration.

In fine, the cabinet of Vienna seemed to understand its real interests: to think at last of only repairing its losses; to heal the wounds which the paper money had received, which consumed the public fortune and that of individuals; and to found the return of the prosperity of the State, upon a wise policy and a long peace. It disbanded its army, and the wants of its interior organization fixed all its attention.

War between France and Russia became imminent. Austria outstripped the wishes of France, and proposed her alliance (1). A treaty

was signed on the 14th March, 1812; an Austrian army marched with the French army for the defence of the grand interests of the Continent, and Austrian blood flowed in the battles against the Russians.

Politicians, who considered the principles hitherto professed by the cabinet of Vienna, were astonished at an alliance which they knew to be contrary to its secret sentiments: but other politicians, not less enlightened, judging its dispositions according to its real situation; seeing Austria, after so many sacrifices, come out of a contest which four times had been fatal to her; considering the disastrous state of her finances, the embarrassment of her administration, the complication of its interior organization, thought that she would renew the system of Kaunitz, and insure herself, as by the treaty of 1756, a long peace, which would give her time to recover her ancient prosperity: they thought her interest, well understood, would keep her in the alliance. As a particular transaction, the treaty of the 14th of March was a fault of the cabinet; but considered independently of the war with Russia, which was but the occasion and the corollary of it, viewed as the basis of a system which was to ensure forty years of peace, the alliance appeared to be dictated by great views; it was the

most efficacious means to cicatrize so many wounds, which still bled. These considerations, all striking as they were, did not prove founded. The alliance of 1812 was not the result of a system, but the effect of circumstances.

As soon as the disasters of the months of November and December last were known by the Cabinet of Vienna, it judged that France was abandoned by fortune; it hastened to pass to another system: from an allied government Austria became an enemy. The auxiliary corps which fought with the French army, was the ground-work of the principal army destined to fight France. Nevertheless, unexpected events baffled all foresight; they had not entered into the calculations of Austria; she was without finances, without armies; it is proved that all her efforts did not succeed in placing 60,000 men under arms in January last. Having taken her resolution previously to having the means of supporting it, and calculating that six months were requisite to be in a condition to present an army upon the field of battle, the Cabinet of Vienna felt the necessity of concealing her intentions under the appearance of fidelity to her engagements, and the love of peace. It offered its mediation to the belligerent Powers; but, at the same time, began its levies and ran to arms. The minister

who directed the finances, entirely devoted to the restoration of the monarchy, although he personally nourished hatred towards France, adhered to the alliance as the only means of succeeding in the re-establishment of interior economy. He opposed the greatest resistance to the war, and a successor was appointed to him. Immediately a new paper money for 100 million of francs was created ; the plans of order and economy, hitherto pursued, were overthrown, and the Cabinet precipitated itself into war. In vain did enlightened men represent that the army no longer existed ; that the skeletons could only be filled with recruits ; that the *materiel* was destroyed ; that not less than eighteen months were requisite to reorganize the military state of Austria ; that the affairs of great nations were not conducted by starts, nor a great system instantly composed ; that since they had not refused to enter into connections with France, it was requisite to have remained neutral in 1812, and been occupied in re-establishing the army ; but that having adopted the alliance in 1812, it was requisite to persist in it in 1813 : they represented that by a wise policy, and a little management, Austria might derive advantages from circumstances, by reaping real advantages, without exposing herself to the chances of a war, in which she would become a principal, which demanded

armies in Silesia, in Saxony, in Bavaria, in Italy: that to present herself in this serious contest, without being prepared for it, was to expose herself to fatal catastrophes, or at least to plunge herself in all the uncertainties of a long and general war, into which she was going to plunge Europe; that if, nevertheless, circumstances were favourable for enabling Austria to recover her influence, they were deceived in not perceiving that the basis of all grandeur for a State is good finances, or a good money system, and armies well organized, well equipped: and that a good army does not consist in a great number of men, but in the quality of the soldiers: that by persevering some years in the system of the alliance, Austria would have recovered its ancient prosperity, and with it, that real independence, for which a good interior and military administration lays the foundation. But the partizans for the war replied, that they reasoned as if France was the same, whilst her fortune had changed; as if she had armies, when the *élite* of her soldiers had been destroyed by the severity of winter. They said, that if Austria had only recruits, it would be against recruits she fought, and that it was beyond the power of any government to recreate that so formidable French cavalry, which at Ratisbon and at Wagram had decided victory; that the moment had arrived

for again raising the Austrian Eagle—for humiliating the French Eagle, and making France return to her ancient limits.

From the month of April the Cabinet of Vienna occupied itself; it promised the enemies of France to be, on the 20th of June, upon the field of battle with 150,000 men. Whilst Austria openly armed, the Cabinet carried on a war of insinuations to weaken France by tempting her allies. It shewed Austria to Denmark, to Saxony, to Bavaria, to Wurtemberg, and even in Naples and in Westphalia, as a friend, an ally of France who wished for nothing but peace, who desired nothing for herself; it engaged them not to make useless armaments, not to give France succours, as the point was not to fight, but make peace; as Austria had 150,000 men to place in the balance, against which of the two Powers wished to continue the war. Those insinuations could not impose a moment but on Cabinets so little enlightened as to believe in the disinterestedness of the Austrians. But the battles of Lutzen and Wurschen, still more than the disasters of November and December, astonished those who had so ill calculated the means of France, and so little foreseen events: perhaps they would have been glad to retrace their steps, but the Cabinet was engaged; it endeavoured to attribute the

new victories to causes independent of the force of the French armies: however, its proceedings became uncertain; it advanced the most contradictory pretensions; it wished to be the ally of France, by placing in reserve all the causes of the treaty of alliance; it wished to be mediator, and remain bound to our enemies. We answered it, that Austria was at liberty to renounce the alliance: that France would not be hurt; but that she did not like those half measures, the common resources of irresolution and weakness. We accepted the opening of a congress, although we foresaw that it would not have a prompt result for the present war, but as the means of keeping open negotiations which would one day lead to peace. I will not here point out in what manner the Cabinet of Vienna exercised the mediation of Austria. Neither shall I dwell upon the details of the Congress at Prague; it has not existed. After the battles of Lutzen and Wurschen, Russia and Prussia would have been sincerely disposed to treat, if they had not had the hope of drawing Austria into their quarrel, and throwing upon her the burthen of the war. Such is the vicious circle in which the Cabinet of Vienna has placed Europe; it pretended to be the bearer of peace to our enemies: by connecting itself with them, by taking upon itself the greater part of the chances, dangers, and sacrifices, it encour-

raged them to war. It thought it led the Powers ; it was led by them ; they drove it to war for their own interest. Russia hoped, by raising the people from the Vistula to the Rhine, to erect between her and us a barrier of disorder and anarchy ; that attempt having been unsuccessful, another mode offered ; she seized it ; she precipitated Austria into war.

Could the Austrian Cabinet seriously think, after the serious proofs which it has had of the power of the French armies, to drive us in some months within our ancient limits ? Twenty years of victory would be requisite to destroy what twenty years of victory have created. But since such was her thought, why, after the peace of 1809, did Austria disband her armies ? Why, in 1812, did she ally herself with France ? None of the proceedings of the Cabinet of Vienna escaped that of the Thuilleries. From the month of November the Austrian change of system was foreseen, and if the government demanded extraordinary levies from the nation, on the treason of General York, because it made it foresee the defection of Prussia, it demanded fresh ones on the defection of Prussia, because it made it foresee that of Austria. It is this foresight which has spoiled all the combinations of the Cabinet of Vienna, and which has placed the French ar-



mies in a condition to make head against all their enemies. But, Sire, the coalesced Powers feel, that to attempt the accomplishment of the designs which at last they have ceased to dissemble, they must make the greatest efforts. It is necessary that at your Majesty's voice numerous battalions arise in the bosom of France to place your powerful armies in a condition to carry on the war with new vigour, and in order to provide for all chances, when all Europe is in arms; when, independently of regular armies, the coalesced generals call to battle the Landwehr, the Landsturm, and make every man a soldier, the French nation owes it equally to its safety as its glory, to evince fresh energy; it must consecrate to the conquest of a durable peace, efforts proportioned to those which its enemies make to realize the projects of an ambition which knows no bounds.

(Signed)      The Duke of BASSANO,  
Minister for Foreign Affairs.

*Dresden, Aug. 20, 1813.*

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*Documents relative to the Alliance.*

Prussia having resolved on withdrawing herself from the obligations of the peace of Tilsit, the conditions of which she had eluded towards the close of the year 1810; she then augmented her armies; in 1811. formed assemblages of them on the frontiers of her Polish provinces, and in the commencement of the year 1812, she appeared determined and ready for war.

The Cabinet of Vienna took some insignificant steps to engage Russia to keep the peace. Not only she had nothing in this matter to do with the French government, whose pacific dispositions were known to her, but these overtures tended to a quite opposite result; for if any thing could cause an intention to war, it was her offer of uniting with us against our enemies, and proposing her alliance. By the treaty, Austria blended her political interests with those of France, whose principles she approved, and to which she associated herself by a guarantee without reserve. She engaged to furnish a contingent for the war; she adhered in the first place to the re-establishment of the kingdom of Poland, and in the case of this event taking place, she consented to the cession of Austrian Galicia

on the condition of receiving an indemnity, the basis of which was already fixed ; and, finally, she was assured of aggrandizements in territory, and the partition of States, which a fortunate war had put at the disposal of France. This was the end at which the Cabinet of Vienna aimed. Anxious to raise up enemies against Russia, she, by her agents, pressed the Ottoman Porte, Prussia, and Sweden, to make common cause with France.

Thus, she not only did not endeavour to prevent the war, but, on the contrary, neglected no measures which, by adding to the security of the enterprise, was to lead France to attempt it.

But nothing could shake the Emperor's wish to avoid the war, and he never ceased hoping for the attainment of that object, until the very day on which the ambassador of Russia, by a formal declaration, demanded, as an ultimatum, that the French armies, by retiring on the Rhine, should take to flight, as if they had been vanquished ; and demanded his passports.

The war commenced,—Austria gave her contingent,—composed it of corps and of generals d'élite,—and exceeded the number of men she had engaged to furnish.

[Here follows the treaty of alliance with Austria, which I have given in the first volume, page 18; of my "Northern Campaigns," and the secret articles of the treaty, introduced in the second volume of that work, page 182.]

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*Documents relative to the Auxiliary Corps.*

The auxiliary corps being arrived at Slonim on the 12th of November, 1812, changed all at once its line of operations, returned to the Bug, and thus facilitated the arrival of Admiral Tschichagoff, at Minsk, twenty-four hours before the French army. From this time, too, the auxiliary corps, according to the public papers, did not cease to be in daily communication with the enemy. Towards the beginning of January, an interview was proposed to Prince Schwartzenberg by General Wasseschikoff, aid-de-camp to the Emperor of Russia; this was accepted, and was to have taken place between Ostolenka and Tykoem, but an accident prevented the Russian general from appearing there. He was replaced by the Counsellor of State d'Anstedt, the same who figured as a Plenipotentiary of Russia, at Prague, and the conference was held at Warsaw. Every thing that has passed from

the date of that moment between the Austrian corps and the Russian corps, was in consequence of their acting perfectly in concert. The Austrian corps, retiring from station to station, successively abandoned to the enemy all the territory of the Duchy of Warsaw—refused to concur in the operations of the French army, whilst the Austrian Cabinet declared that this corps did not cease to be under the Emperor's orders. It secretly concluded an armistice with the enemy, which it dissembled for a long time, and would not acknowledge its existence, until the moment when General Frimont announced that the armistice was broken, and made known his resolution of re-entering the Austrian territory—and the convention concluded with Saxony (see No. 2 the text of that convention,) without the French government having the least knowledge of it, for sending the Polish corps disarmed into the rear of the French army; the presence of which in a part of Poland caused a lively inquietude to Russia.

[No. 2. Under this head is a convention concluded between Austria and Saxony, for permitting the troops under General Poniatowski, on leaving the Duchy of Warsaw, to traverse Galicia, Moravia, and Bohemia. It consists of fourteen articles, stipulates that they shall not

pass in columns of more than 3,400 infantry, and 1,000 horse, at once; and states the sum to be daily paid for the support of each soldier.]

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*Documents relative to the Proceedings of the Cabinet of Vienna, to the opening of the Campaign.*

The disasters which the excessive rigour of the season caused the French army in Russia were scarcely known at Vienna, and already the Cabinet leaned to a change of system. (See the letters from Count Otto of the 16th and 18th December, Nos. 1 and 2.) But it wanted time to arm. It opened negotiations, and proposed its interposition to the belligerent parties. The Emperor, who only desired peace, made no difficulty of accepting the mediation of an ally. The Cabinet of Vienna evinced the most lively joy; it applauded the Emperor's views, and found them generous. It appeared to enter upon that career where it particularly loved to serve the interests of France. It declared that it was immovable in its system; that the alliance founded on the most natural, permanent, and the most essentially necessary interests, should be as everlasting as the motives which had caused it:

that it was that which it had sought for, after having deeply reflected, that if it was to be again done, it would wish it such as it was; that it did not dread France, but Russia. It protested the disinterestedness of Austria, who wished nothing for herself, and who would consider the most important aggrandizement too dearly purchased at the expense of a campaign. It was but to see the moment when the Russians would not adhere to moderate propositions, to employ against them—not the auxiliary corps stipulated by the treaty of alliance,—not a corps of 70,000 men, but—all the force of the monarchy. It, in short, engaged not to act in any way derogatory to the Emperor, to take no steps without his knowledge, and to communicate all its proceedings to him, whether to lead to negotiations, or respecting the armaments which were to sustain Austria in her new attitude. The Cabinet of Vienna was prodigal of those assurances to the French ambassador; they were the object of the extraordinary mission of Count Bubna to Paris. It sent the Prince of Schwartzenberg there, to give the Emperor a striking proof of its dispositions, by making appear at the Court of France, the commandant of the Austrian corps, proceeding to his chief to receive his orders. In fine, it prohibited its agent from making use of the word “mediation,” whilst that it was employing the

mediation of an ally who aspires to accelerate the term of the war. (see letters from Count Bubna.) Russia accepted this friendly mediation of a power at war with her. She remarked, that forms and usages were contrary to this concession, but she passed over those considerations; for, having given Austria a proof of her confidence and of her esteem, the Cabinets previously understood each other; this language was concerted.

At the same time, when Austria proposed her mediation to Russia, she made an offer of it to England, who did not fail to observe that the constant relations of Austria with France were opposed to the success of this step. It had in effect no result.

Count de Narbonne was named ambassador at Vienna. He arrived at his post in the latter end of March. Then the combined armies had arrived on the Elbe. The Austrian cabinet proceeded more freely in its system. The French ambassador wrote on the 1st of April, "We cannot dissemble that Austria, whether she persists in the alliance, or whether she declares against us, can in either case but hold the same language and the same conduct to the denouement."



Prince Schwartzenberg, after long delays, had proceeded to Paris. This commandant of the auxiliary corps, who came to his chief to take his orders, and was still there when the Emperor, notwithstanding the declarations, of which that ambassador was the bearer, felt the necessity of pressing the events of war, to arrest, were it possible, the determinations towards which Austria marched with hasty steps.

Prince Schwartzenberg, who remained at Paris after the Emperor's departure on the 22d of April, gave in a note, in which he still declared, that if some of the stipulations of the alliance were not applicable to the circumstances of the moment, the Emperor Francis did not wish to alter any of its bases. He, at the same time, verbally repeated to the Duke of Bassano, the declaration which he had already made to the Emperor; that when the orders reached the auxiliary corps, he did not doubt their being obeyed by the provisional commandant.

At the same time, the French ambassador at Vienna, having been charged to inform the Cabinet, that the moment the renewal of hostilities should be resolved upon, orders would be sent to the auxiliary corps to act in concert, asked if

they would be punctually executed. Receiving but vague and captious replies, he thought it his duty to prove, by facts, the real dispositions of the Cabinet. He demanded a formal explanation by a note, dated 21st of April. (See note 14.)

Count Metternich replied on the 26th. His reply left no doubt respecting the inclination of the Austrian Cabinet not to fulfil its obligations. (See note 15.)

The Emperor had just triumphed at Lutzen when he received the courier who brought him the reply of Austria. From this moment the projects of the Cabinet of Vienna were unveiled.

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*Declaration of Count Metternich, dated Prague,  
Aug. 12, 1813.*

The undersigned minister of state for foreign affairs is charged, by an express order from his august Majesty, to make the following declaration to his Excellency the Count de Narbonne, ambassador from his Majesty the Emperor of France, King of Italy:—

Since the last peace signed with France, in

October, 1809; his Imperial Majesty and Apostolic King has directed all his solicitude, not only to the establishing with that power relations of friendship and confidence, which she made the basis of her political system, but made use of those relations to support the peace and order of Europe. She flattered herself that this intimate connection, cemented by a family alliance contracted with the Emperor of the French, would contribute to give it, in its political proceedings, the only influence it was jealous to acquire—that which tended to communicate to the Cabinets of Europe, that spirit of moderation, that respect for the rights and the possessions of independent States, which she herself possessed. His Imperial Majesty was not long able to indulge in such flattering hopes. A year had scarcely elapsed, from the epoch which seemed to have raised the military glory of the Sovereign of France to the highest pitch, and nothing appeared to be wanting to his prosperity, as far as depended upon his attitude and his influence abroad, when new additions to the French territories, of States, till then independent, new parcelling out and dismemberments of the Empire of Germany (A,) awoke the apprehensions of powers, and prepared by their fatal reaction upon the North of Europe, the war which was kindled in 1812; between France and Russia (B.) The

French Cabinet knows better than any other how much the Emperor of Austria had at heart to prevent its breaking out, by all the ways which his interest for the two powers, and for those who would find themselves drawn into the great contest which was preparing, dictated to him.

It is not him whom Europe will ever accuse for the incalculable evils which have been the consequence of it (C.)

In this state of things, his Majesty the Emperor not being able to preserve to his people the benefits of peace, and maintain a happy neutrality in the midst of that vast field of battle which on all sides surrounded his States, only consulted in the part he adopted, that his fidelity to relations so recently established, and the hope he loved to still cherish, that his alliance with France, by affording him the most certain means of having prudent counsels hearkened to, would place bounds to inevitable evils, and serve the cause of the return of peace to Europe (D.)

Unfortunately it has not thus happened; neither the brilliant successes of 1812, nor the unexampled misfortunes which marked the conclusion of it, were able to bring back into the councils of the French government, that spirit of

moderation which would have turned the first to advantage, and diminish the effect of the latter.

His Majesty did not the less, on that account, take advantage of the moment when both parties, reciprocally exhausted, had slackened the active operations of war, to convey to the belligerent powers pacific sentiments, which he still hoped to see received, on either part, with that sincerity which had dictated them.

Persuaded, nevertheless, that he would only be able to make them be listened to, by supporting them with forces, which would promise to the party with whom he accorded in views and principles, that support of his active co-operation to terminate the great contest (F,) in offering his mediation to the powers, he determined upon the efforts most painful to his heart—an appeal to the courage and patriotism of his people. The congress proposed by both parties, assembled in the midst of military preparations, which the success of negotiations would render useless, were the Emperor's wishes realised; but would, in a contrary case, lead, by new efforts, to the pacific result which his Majesty preferred obtaining without effusion of blood (G.)

By obtaining, from the confidence placed in

his Imperial Majesty, the consent of the other powers for that prolongation of the armistice which France judged necessary for the negotiations, the Emperor acquired with the proof of their pacific views, that of the moderation of their principles, and of their intentions (H.)

In them he acknowledged his own, and from that moment persuaded himself that it would be from their side he would meet with sincere dispositions to concur in the re-establishment of a solid and durable peace.

France, far from manifesting analogous intentions, gave but general assurances, too frequently contradicted by public declarations, which gave no hope that she would make those sacrifices for peace that would be sufficient to bring it back to Europe (I.)

The proceedings of the congress could leave no doubt in this respect; nor the delay in the arriving of the French plenipotentiaries, under pretexts which the great end of its assembling ought to have rendered nugatory (J.)

The insufficiency of their instructions upon objects of form, which caused an irreparable loss of time, when a few days only remained for the

most important of negotiations (K;) all those circumstances united, but too clearly demonstrated, that a peace, such as Austria and the allied Sovereigns desired, was foreign to the wishes of France (L;) and that having accepted, for form's sake, and in order not to be exposed to the reproach of the prolongation of the war, her proposition for a negotiation, she wished to elude the effect of it (M,) or perhaps take advantage of it to separate Austria from the powers which were already united with her by principle, even before treaties had consecrated their union for the cause of peace, and the happiness of the world (N.)

Austria came out of this negotiation, the results of which deceived her dearest wishes, with a consciousness of the good faith which she carried to it. More zealous than ever for the noble end which she proposed, she only takes arms for the purpose of attaining it, in concert with powers animated by similar sentiments, always equally disposed to lend her hand to the re-establishment of an order of things, which, by a wise decision of forces, will place the guarantee of peace under the shield of an association of independent States. She will neglect no opportunity of arriving at this result; and the knowledge she has acquired of the dispositions of the courts be-

come henceforth allies, gives her the certainty, that they will sincerely co-operate in so salutary a design.

In declaring by the Emperor's orders to the Count de Narbonne, that his functions, as ambassador, cease from this moment, the undersigned places at his Excellency's disposition, the requisite passports for himself and suite.

Similar passports shall be sent to A. de la Blanche, Chargé d'Affaires from Vienna, as well as to the other individuals of the embassy.

He has the honor of offering, &c.

(Signed) METTERNICH.

*Prague, August 12, 1813.*

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## NOTES.

Note A. Austria with full consent renounced the empire of Germany. She acknowledged the Princes of the Confederation. She acknowledged the Protectorate of the Emperor. If the Cabinet has conceived the design of re-establishing the empire of Germany, of reversing every



thing that victory has founded, and treaties consecrated, it has conceived a design which but ill proves the spirit of moderation, and the respect for the rights of independent States, with which it professes to be animated.

**Note B.** The Cabinet of Vienna forgets the treaty of alliance which it concluded on the 14th of March, 1812; it forgets that, by this treaty, France and Austria reciprocally guaranteed the integrity of their existing territories: it forgets that, by this treaty, Austria engaged to defend the territory of France, as it then existed, and which has not since received any enlargement; it forgets that, by this treaty, it did not limit itself to demand for Austria the integrity of her territory, but the aggrandizements which circumstances might procure to her; it forgets that, on the 14th of March, 1812, all the questions from which the war originated were known and fixed; and that it was voluntarily, and with full knowledge of the cause, that it took part against Russia. Why, if it had then the sentiments which it at present avows, did it not then make common cause with Russia; why, at least, instead of uniting itself with what it now represents as an unjust cause, did it not remain neutral? Prussia, at the same time, made an alliance with France, which she violated afterwards, but

her fortresses and territory were occupied. Placed between two great powers in arms, and in the theatre of war, neutrality was impossible, and she took part with the strongest side. When afterwards Russia occupied her territory, she received the law, and became the ally of Russia. None of these circumstances which regulated the determinations of Prussia existed in 1812, nor do they exist in 1813 with respect to Austria. She engaged with full consent, in 1812, in the cause which she believed the most just, and that of which the triumph was most important to her views, and the interests of Europe, of which she has shown herself so restless a protector, and so warlike a defender. She has shed her blood to support the cause of France, and in 1813, she lavishes it to support the contrary side. What must the people think? What judgment must they form of a government which attacking to-day what it defended yesterday, shews that it is neither justice nor policy which regulates the most important determinations of its Cabinet.

**Note C.** The French Cabinet knows better than any other that Austria excited to it when even the hope of obtaining it was not conceived; it knows, that if any thing could have inclined it to war, it was the certainty that Austria would not only take no part against it, but that it would

take part for it. It knows, that far from dis-  
advising the war, Austria excited it; that far  
from fearing it, she desired it. She knows, that  
far from wishing to oppose new divisions of  
States; she conceived new dismemberments, by  
which she hoped to profit.

Note D. The cabinet of Vienna could not, it  
is said, maintain a neutrality in the midst of the  
vast field of battle which surrounded it on all  
sides. Were not circumstances, then, the same  
in 1806? Were not sanguinary battles fought  
in 1806 and 1807, near the limits of her terri-  
tory; and did she not still preserve to her people  
the benefits of peace, and maintain a happy neu-  
trality? But the government of Austria, in taking  
part in the war, and combatting in the cause of  
France, consulted, it is said, its fidelity to rela-  
tions newly established; a fidelity which no lon-  
ger deserves to be consulted, when those relations  
become older by a year, and more strict by a  
formal alliance: if we may now believe Austria,  
it was not to insure to itself its aggrandizements,  
that in 1812 it allied itself to France, which  
guaranteed all its possessions, and took part in  
the war; it was to promote the return of peace,  
and to cause the councils of wisdom and prudence  
so be listened to. What logic! what modesty!

**Note E.** How did the cabinet of Vienna learn that the brilliant successes of the campaign of 1812 did not bring back to moderation the councils of the French government? If it had been well informed, it would have known that the councils of France, after the battle of Moscow, were moderate and pacific, and that every thing which could restore peace was then tried.

**Note F.** The cabinet of Vienna continues its errors. It made common cause with France in 1812, and it now says, that it was to prevent her from making war against Russia. It arms in 1813, in favour of Russia and Prussia; and this it says is to inspire them with a desire of peace. These powers, at first elevated by some success, which they owed to the chance of circumstances, were restored to more calm sentiments by the striking reverses of the first month of the campaign. Enfeebled, vanquished, they were about to recover from their illusions. The Austrian government declared, that it would arm in their behalf, and shewed them its arms ready to be taken up in their defence. By thus offering them new chances in the continuation of the war, it pretends to inspire them with a desire of peace. What else could it have done, if it had wished to encourage them to war? It has offered to Russia to take upon itself the burden; and it has

offered to Prussia to change the theatre of the war; it has called upon its own territory the troops of its allies, and all the calamities which weighed upon that of Prussia. It has, in fine, offered to the cabinet of St. Petersburg, the spectacle most agreeable to an Emperor of Russia,—that of Austria, her natural enemy fighting against France, her actual enemy. If the Cabinet of Vienna had asked advice of true wisdom, it would have known, that a conflagration is not to be extinguished by affording it new aliment; that it is not wise to endanger ourselves for a nation whose interests are contrary or foreign; in fine, that it is folly to expose to all the chances of war, a nation which after such long-continued misfortunes, might continue to enjoy the sweets of peace. But ambition is not a counsellor which wisdom acknowledges.

Note G. The author of this declaration cannot get out of the vicious circle in which he is bewildered. Russia and Prussia knew very well that the Austrian government was arming against France. From that moment they could not wish for peace. This result of the dispositions of the Cabinet of Vienna was too evident not to be reckoned upon.

Note H. The Cabinet of Vienna had caused

the whole month of June to be lost without any of the formalities which should have preceded the opening of the congress. France did not solicit that the armistice should be prolonged, but she consented to it. What she wished, and what she asked was, that the negotiations should be continued during hostilities ; but the Cabinet of Austria refused this. Austria would have been bound as mediatrix during the negotiations, and she preferred a prolongation of the armistice which would give her time to furnish her armaments ; and of which the limited duration offered a fatal term for breaking off the negotiations and declaring herself.

**Note I.** How was the Cabinet of Vienna assured that France would not bring to the peace those sacrifices which might restore it to Europe? Before the moment which it had fixed for war, did it propose any ultimatum, and distinctly make known what it wished? It declared war because it wished for war. It declared it without examining whether it could be avoided, and with a precipitation in which it is difficult to recognize the influence of the counsels of wisdom.

**Note J.** It was by the act of Austria and the allies that the arrival of plenipotentiaries was

retarded. Yet the difficulties raised by design were not removed when the Count de Narbonne was already at Prague. His powers, common to the two plenipotentiaries, authorized him to act jointly or separately. The Duke of Vicenza arrived later, because new difficulties by which the dignity of France was compromised were raised by the enemy. But what signify these observations? What would a delay of a few days have been to a mediator who did not wish for war? and what a motive for war is a delay of a few days!

Note K. The plenipotentiaries had for their instructions to adhere to all the forms of negotiation consecrated by custom. The mediator proposed unusual forms, and such as tended to prevent all approach of the plenipotentiaries on either side, all accommodation and all negotiation. He introduced a discussion which no negotiator, with a sincere desire of peace, would ever have started. "There remained," said he, "but a few days for the most important of negotiations." Why did there remain only a few days? What had the armistice in common with the negotiation? Was it not possible to negotiate fighting? What signify a few days more or less, when a treaty of peace is in question? If the Cabinet of Vienna did not wish to nego-

ciate, but to dictate, as conditions are dictated to a besieged place, a few days might, indeed, suffice; but then why did it not propose a capitulation? There only remained a few days for the most important negotiations. What negotiation, then, is that which can be concluded in a few days? Time may be necessary when satisfactory explanation is wished, but it is useless to a mediator who has taken his determination beforehand. However, when it is against France, some days more or less may be allowed to think of it.

**Note L.** We must here do justice to the penetration of the Cabinet of Vienna. No doubt a peace such as the allied Sovereigns desired, was foreign to the wishes of France; in like manner as such a peace as France could approve, must have been contrary to the wishes of the allies. Every power that enters into negotiation wishes for all that it can obtain; but when there is a mediator, he interposes between these contrary wishes. But such was not the part which the Austrian cabinet had assigned itself. It never was a mediator; it was an enemy from the time when, according to its own confession, it wished no other peace than that which was wished by one only of the parties. But what was the peace which the Cabinet of Vienna wished? it really



wished peace, a peace of any kind, why did it not explain itself? Why? because it had adopted all the pretensions of Russia, of Prussia, and of England; and because it had, besides, pretensions of its own, on which it did not wish to give way, because it had resolved on war.

Note M. France proposed the meeting of a congress, because she sincerely wished peace; because she flattered herself that the plenipotentiaries, when in the presence of those of Russia and Prussia, would come to an understanding; because a congress, even under the mediation of Austria, would be a means to escape the dangers of the insinuations which the Cabinet of Vienna circulated.

France accepted the mediation of Austria, because, supposing in the Cabinet of Vienna the ambitious views of which we had no doubt, it was to be believed that it would find itself cramped by its part of mediator, and would not dare, in a public negotiation, undertaken for its sole interest, to reject our moderate views, and the sacrifices which we were disposed to make for peace: because, in fine, if it had been otherwise, and if the mediator and our enemies had been agreed on their reciprocal pretensions, the Cabinet of Vienna would propose

an ultimatum, which would excite the indignation of France and her allies.

Note N. Austria, then, was already united in principles with the enemies of France. Who required from her this confession?

The Cabinet of Vienna feared lest France should prevail in a negociation to separate Austria from her powerful enemies. No doubt if Austria had united with them to prevent their making peace, and with the firm resolution of making war against us, she must have feared a negociation, in which our moderation might have offered them more advantageous chances in peace than in war; but why, then, did the Cabinet of Vienna offer its mediation, and cause Europe to resound with its wishes for peace?

Note O. Austria wishes to establish an order of things, which, by a wise distribution of forces, places the guarantee of peace under the ægis of an association of independent States. She will not make peace till an equal distribution of forces shall guarantee the independence of each State. To obtain this, she ought immediately to aggrandize, at her own expence, Bavaria and Saxony; for the great powers must descend, in order that the weaker powers may become their equals.

When it shall have given that example, it will have a right to demand that it shall be imitated. Thus the Cabinet of Vienna wishes to fight,—to render all powers a republic of Sovereigns, the elements of which shall be perfectly equal; and is it to such reveries, that the repose of the world is to be sacrificed? Can public reason, and the opinion of Europe, be more openly sported with? In drawing up manifestoes, as well as in the regulation of its conduct, the Cabinet of Vienna has not listened to the counsels of wisdom.

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The following letter from the Duke of Bassano, was in consequence of one from Count Metternich, stating that he had received notes from the Russian and Prussian ambassadors, declaring the congress to be at an end, in consequence of the time for which the armistice had been made having expired:

*Note from the Minister for Foreign Affairs to  
Count Metternich.*

The undersigned minister for foreign affairs has placed before his Majesty the Emperor and King the declaration of the 11th of August, by

which Austria throws off the mask of mediator, with which she covered her designs.

Since the month of February, the hostile dispositions of the Cabinet of Vienna towards France were known to all Europe. Denmark, Saxony, Bavaria, Wurtemberg, Naples, and Westphalia, have, in their archives, documents which prove how much Austria, under the false appearances of the interest she took for her ally, and the love of peace, nourished jealousy against France.

The undersigned refuses to retrace the system of protestations lavished on one side, and insinuations spread upon the other, by which the Cabinet of Vienna compromised the dignity of its Sovereign; and which, in its developement, compromised what is most sacred among men, a mediator, a congress, and the name of peace.

If Austria wished to make war, what occasion had she to clothe herself in false language, and surround France with snares so badly contrived, that they were evident to every body?

If the mediator wished for peace, would he have pretended that transactions so complicated, could have been accomplished in fifteen or twenty days? Was that a pacific disposition, which con-

sisted in dictating peace to France in less time than would have been requisite for concluding the capitulation of a besieged place? The peace of Teschen required more than four months' negotiations; more than six weeks were employed in that of Sistow, before even the discussions respecting the forms were terminated. The negotiation for the peace of Vienna, when the greater part of the Austrian monarchy was in the hands of France, lasted two months. In these different transactions the interests and the number of the parties were circumscribed; and when at Prague the point was to lay down the basis of a general pacification, and to conciliate the interests of France, of Austria, of Russia, of Prussia, of Denmark, of Saxony, and so many other powers,---when to the complications which arose out of the multiplicity and the diversity of interests, were joined the difficulties resulting from the open and concealed pretensions of the mediator, it was derisive to pretend that every thing should be terminated in fifteen days. Without the fatal intervention of Austria, peace would at this present time have been concluded between Russia, France, and Prussia; Austria, an enemy to France, and covering her ambition with the mask of mediatrix, complicated every thing, and rendered all conciliation impossible. But Austria having declared war, is in a more true and quiet

a simple position. Europe is thus nearer peace ; there is one complication less.

The undersigned has, therefore, received orders to propose to Austria, to immediately adopt the means of arriving at peace, by opening a congress, where all the powers, great or small, shall be called ; where all questions shall be solemnly debated ; where it shall not be demanded that this work, as difficult as it is salutary, be terminated either in a week or a month ; where they shall proceed with that leisure inseparable from every operation of that nature, with the gravity which belongs to so great interests and so great ends. The negotiations should be long ; they must be so. Were the treaties of Utrecht, of Nimeguen, of Ryswick, of Aix-la-Chapelle, concluded in a few days ?

In the greater part of memorable discussions, the question of peace was always independent of that of war. They negotiated without knowing whether they would fight or not ; and since the allies found so many hopes upon the chances of battle, nothing prevents them now, as then, from negotiating whilst fighting.

The undersigned proposes to neutralise a point upon the frontier, as a place for conferences.

To assemble the plenipotentiaries of Austria, of France, of Russia, of Prussia, of Saxony; of convoking all those of the belligerent powers; and in commencing, in that august assembly, the work of peace, so anxiously desired throughout all Europe. Nations will experience a real consolation in seeing the sovereigns employed in placing a term to the calamities of war, and to sincere and enlightened men confided the task of conciliating interests, compensating sacrifices, and rendering the peace advantageous and honourable to all nations,

The undersigned does not propose to reply to the Austrian declaration, and the single grief upon which it is founded. His reply would be complete in a single word. He would mention the date of the alliance concluded between the two powers on the 14th of March 1812, and the guarantee stipulated by the treaty of the territory of the empire, such as it was on the 14th of March 1812.

The undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

The Duke of BASSANO.

*Dresden, Aug. 18, 1813.*

(No. I.)

*Extract of a Dispatch from Count Otto, to the  
Ministers for Foreign Affairs.*

*Vienna, December 16, 1812.*

Monseigneur,

I yesterday received, by an extraordinary courier, the dispatches with which your Excellency honoured me, on the 3d, 4th, and 5th of December; and I hastened to communicate to the Austrian Government the important intelligence which those dispatches contained. They were received with the most lively interest.

Your Excellency will have seen, by my last dispatch, how much they endeavoured here to exaggerate the losses which we have suffered. The embarrassment of Count de Metternich was so visible, that I can only attribute it to the interest which he takes in our success. He had the appearance of fearing for the alliance, and forgot himself several times so far, as to tell me, that if Austria adopted another part, she would in a short time see fifty millions of men on her side. According to him all Germany, all Italy, would declare for her. So strange an insinuation could only have been in consequence of pro-



positions addressed to him from abroad, and the impressions which the debates at the council, at which he assisted, had left on him.

They think to do us a particular favour by refusing to take arms against us, at a moment when they suppose us less strong than the Russians. I can only oppose to such opinions a calm attitude and confidence in the superiority of France, so justly acquired, and which passing reverses cannot take from her.

The greatest efforts are made to gain Austria. They offer her Italy, the Illyrian provinces, the supremacy of Germany; in short, the re-establishment of the ancient splendor of the Imperial Crown.

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(No. II.)

*Extract of a Dispatch from the same to the same.*

*Vienna, Dec. 23, 1812.*

Monseigneur,

However afflicting the picture of what is passing here may be, it is my duty to submit it to you, without any disguise.

It is perhaps without example, that the members of the government of a great power should have conceived the idea of abandoning an ally, after a first reverse, to join the colours of its enemy. It is however in this manner, that the greater number of men of influence in this country have dared to talk, immediately after the intelligence of the retreat of our army. They hastened to circumvent the cabinet by all the means which intrigue and corruption are able to direct against good faith. They have represented to it, that France having no longer an army, it would be absurd to wish to singly support the war against the Russian Colossus; that the court of Berlin was not in a condition to continue its armaments; that Bavaria, the Duchy of Warsaw, and Saxony, were drained of men and money; that the North of Germany was ready to hoist the standard of revolt; that, consequently, it was necessary to recal the auxiliary corps, to change the system, and take advantage of a moment so favourable to recover the lost provinces; that more than fifty millions of men were ready to declare for Austria, and make a common cause with her; that France herself was on the eve of a great revolution; and that the moment had arrived for restoring to nations their ancient laws and their independence.

In raving against France, the faction has not

forgotten to attack in every manner, the first partizan of French alliance, Count Metternich. Not a day passes without some new means being invented to discredit him; and it is openly announced that he will be replaced by M. de Stadion.

(Signed) OTTO.

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(No. III.)

*Extract of a Dispatch from the same to the same.*

Vienna, Jan. 3, 1813.

Monseigneur,

The Ministry has again repeated to me, that measures have been taken to render moveable the troops from Gallicia and Transylvania, and that Count Bubna was the bearer to France of the details of this armament. They still think that this general officer will be agreeable to his Majesty, and that he will fill diplomatic functions at Paris, although he was at first sent but as the bearer of a letter.

Your Excellency will have seen, by all my preceding reports, that the present war is unpo-

pular in Austria ; but government has had sufficient firmness to maintain the system of alliance; and it may be said, that the late reverses have but served to confirm its dispositions. The re-establishment of peace is at present the wish dearest to Austria. "Tell us frankly," has the minister frequently repeated to me, "what you intend to do, and place us in the situation of acting towards you as a good ally, and towards the other as an independent power. Believe that we are penetrated with the value of the alliance, and that we are capable of rendering you essential services."

(Signed)

OTTO.

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(No. IV.)

*From the same to the same.*

Vienna, Jan. 8, 1813.

Monseigneur,

Having yesterday evening received the dispatch which your Excellency addressed to me on the 31st of December, I hastened to see the minister early in the morning, to discourse upon the very important questions it contained. He at first told me, that Russia was too much engaged

with England to treat singly: "believe what I tell you," added he, "we have a thousand ways of knowing what passes. Courted by all your enemies, we learn from the one, what the other has hidden; and we are even in a condition to compare so many different reports, that truth cannot escape us. Besides, we will have no direct communications with England, unless authorised with you; and we will place them in the forms proper for you, nevertheless preserving the attitude of a power that acts spontaneously. What have you to risk? We will compromise the English ministry to the nation, and take upon us all the blame or want of success. Notwithstanding your late reverse, you are still in the most brilliant position. It is not the Emperor Napoleon who most needs peace. If he does not choose to act offensively, it depends upon himself to remain for a year, for two years, upon the Vistula: never will the Russians be able to force that barrier. You will easily preserve the attitude you had previous to the war; but it is Germany, Prussia, Poland, and particularly Austria, which suffers in this state of things. It is therefore natural, that we raise our voice, and loudly demand peace. As soon as the Emperor shall have made known his intentions to us, we will make them known; for he alone is untouched, & he alone is in a condition to dictate peace. Let him have in us a perfect confidence.

Let him confidently speak to us, we will similarly answer him." M. de Metternich spoke for half an hour, with an effusion of heart, descriptive of the intentions of Austria, and of his entire devotion to our cause.

(Signed) **Otto.**

(No. V.)

*From the same to the same.*

**Vienna, Jan. 19, 1813.**

Count Metternich begged of me to call upon him this morning. He had just received a courier from Berlin, which brought him the details of the defection of the Prussian army, with letters written by both parties, either to justify or blame that strange event.

"It is a proof," said the minister to me, "of what I have often told you of the *Græca fides* of the Prussians, and of the embarrassing position in which the greater part of the Sovereigns of Europe are, in respect to their troops and their people." I have remarked that the Austrian minister at Berlin has transmitted all the official documents; the letters of the King of Naples, of

the King of Prussia, of Marshal Macdonald, of Count St. Marsin; in short, of an infinite number of details, which could only have been communicated to him by M. de Hardenberg.

I must conclude from them, that Prussia places a full confidence in the Cabinet of Vienna; and that she regularly consults it, upon the line of conduct she ought to follow. In fine, M. de Metternich has often told me, that Prussia communicates to him all her griefs, and that he takes care to comfort, and engage her not to deviate from her system. He appeared to fear that the defection of the Prussian army would be the signal of a revolution, and lest the Russians, with their usual craftiness, should take advantage of the first impressions it might make in Germany and Poland.

He was going to proceed, when a Courier of Count Bubna's delivered him dispatches from Paris, dated the 2d. The Minister read the whole of them to me. He found in them a pledge of the long duration of the alliance, and the success of the negotiations. He will immediately take the Emperor's orders, upon the choice of the individual intended to be sent to Wilna, and he will not lose a moment in sounding the Emperor Alexander's disposition. "We appreciate,"

said he to me, "your immense resources: we know all that you have done, and all that you can do. Besides the seven millions which England gives Russia, she has offered us ten millions to change our system. We refused this offer with contempt, although our finances were in the most ruinous condition. Our customs are at present our principal revenue: we are sure to lose that lucrative branch of our finances, if you abandon your system for excluding colonial products." The difficulty which seemed the most to embarrass Count Metternich, was the demand which Russia will undoubtedly make of an aggrandizement of territory. From the time of Peter the Great, she has never made peace without insisting upon this point; and he is disposed to think she will demand the Vistula for a barrier.

I am going to dispatch your Courier, to make you acquainted as soon as possible with the benefits which Count Bubna's dispatches have produced.

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(No. VI.)

*From the same to the same.*

Vienna, Jan. 21, 1813.

Monseigneur,

I have just returned from the Minister, whom I left extremely well satisfied with the intelligence from Paris. The following are his plans relative to his agent in England:—

He wanted a skilful, discreet man, speaking the language, and understanding to the bottom, the commercial system of Europe. He has fixed upon M. de Wessenberg, Minister Plenipotentiary at Munich, the same whom he would have sent to Paris, had he been of sufficient rank. This Minister is expected here, after a very short abode, he will set out for Copenhagen; he will probably proceed on to Gothenburg to seek the means of embarking: arrived in England, he will deliver a letter to Lord Castlereagh from Count Metternich, informing the English Minister that Austria, touched with the calamities which are passing in Europe, has conceived the idea of exerting herself in the re-establishment of peace; that she has sounded the dispositions of France upon this important point;—that she has

found them favourable to her views; and that, in consequence, she adopts the same measures with that of Great Britain; that being of all the Powers in Europe that which could be the least interested in the eventual conditions of a general peace, and which would suffer the least from the present state of things, she thought herself entitled to inspire sufficient confidence, to make her intervention agreeable; that M. de Wessemberg was charged to collect the intentions of the British Government on this subject; and that his mission would be secret, as long as the Ministry thought proper to hide it from the public.

If M. de Wessemberg is asked what France wishes, he will answer, that he knows nothing more of her dispositions, than that she is willing to treat; and that she has transmitted to Lord Castlereagh conditions, which were published at the time; that his mission is purely Austrian, and has no other end than that of facilitating accommodations, and putting an end to the agitations of Europe; but if the efforts of Austria do not produce that effect, she will see herself obliged, conformably to the same sentiments, to labour without England, in a general pacification of the Continent; a measure which will leave at the disposition of France, a force of more than 500,000 men, which she would solely employ for

the re-establishment of a maritime peace, and her operations in Spain; that Austria is the only Power on the Continent completely a stranger to the commerce of the sea; that she puts a great price on the tranquillity of the Continent; and that maritime affairs may be determined without her intervention, if England neglects the present moment.

If M. de Wessemsberg is asked what Austria means by a general pacification of the Continent, he will answer, not an ordinary peace, but an unanimous convention of the Powers of Europe to solidly maintain peace, and in no manner to meddle in the discussions which shall subsist between France and England. M. de Wessemsberg is to be careful of threatening the English Ministry; but will very vaguely give it to understand, that this general pacification would be followed by the total exclusion of English commerce.

All that is demanded of us is, to make the greatest preparations for a new campaign.

Austria applauds the basis proposed by his Majesty for the peace with Russia, and that with England; she finds them very generous; but she very earnestly begs of us not to speak of them, but let her do it.

She takes upon herself all the responsibility, and will keep to the terms of your last dispatch—that the Emperor consents to the negociation, but that his Majesty will not appear in it.

M. de Metternich thinks the English must be allowed to come to engage, if it is possible, in the discussion, and reckons a little upon events.

The Minister is delighted with having his hands free. I never saw him happier than to-day, and I partake of the hopes he at this moment nourishes.

(Signed) OTTO.

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(No. VII.)

*From the same to the same.*

*Vienna, Jan. 26, 1813.*

M. de Stakelberg has had a secret interview with Count Metternich. The Russian Plenipotentiary began by a long enumeration of the advantages gained by his Government, who, after having repulsed the French, proposed, he said, to come to the assistance of other Powers, and

particularly to Austria, to aid this last Power to reconquer her lost provinces.

After having heard him very tranquilly, M. de Metternich said to him, "Hold, my dear Stakelberg, you resemble a man who, after day for the first time, after having been sick for six months in an obscure chamber. This great day dazzles you. Believe me, we see more clearly, and do not return to projects which stand before our eyes. The system of the Emperor is immovable, and far from seeking aggrandizements which by a single campaign would be too dearly purchased; he wishes but for peace, and he proposes to you to concur with him in it. We have, on this head, already sounded the dispositions of France, and have found them favourable to our views. (We do not complain of our losses, and we do not think that a foreign Cabinet has a right to resent them more than ourselves. I asked this interview from you, to know the intentions of your Court in regard to peace, which is the end of our efforts."

M. de Stakelberg, shortly returning from his exaltation, true or feigned, announced, that his Court was disposed to enter upon negotiations for peace; that it considered the Russian ques-

tion, as finished, and that it only thought of settling the general affairs of Europe. He was interrupted by M. de Metternich, who told him that his project had nothing to do with discussing the conditions of peace, but simply to know if Russia would consent to negotiate. The Russian Plenipotentiary again affirmed, that such was its intention; and that he was even charged to say, that his Sovereign would, with pleasure, receive a confidential person from this Court; that he, however, must add, that Russia would do nothing without the consent of her Ally, the King of Great Britain.

In a second interview, this Plenipotentiary was much more calm. Perhaps he had double instructions, the one to forward the war, the other to insinuate a desire of negotiation. M. de Metternich will to-morrow dispatch M. de Lebzeltern for Wilna. He has given him no other instructions but to talk of peace, and listen to it; he has not said a word to him of the conditions proposed by France; he wishes to let the Russians come. M. de Lebzeltern will confine himself to making known, that in the event of a new campaign, the Russians might lose their actual advantages, and obtain a less honourable peace. If they talk to him of engagements taken with England, he will say, that Austria

has foreseen that embarrassment; and that she has already sent an agent to London. When the point is to discuss the basis, a more distinguished personage shall be accredited to Wilna, and according to circumstances, this same negotiator shall be sent even to England.

“This first proceeding of Russia is a great step,” said the minister to me; “rely upon us, we will nothing slacken, absolutely nothing, for we are at least as much interested as you. Every thing depends upon our attitude. The Emperor has ordered 100,000 men to be moveable, including the auxiliary corps. In adding 30,000 men to that corps, we shall go beyond the obligations of treaty, and authorise Russia to refuse our mediation. Hitherto the war has not been Austrian. If it, in the end, becomes so, it is not with 30,000 men, but with all the forces of the monarchy, that we will attack the Russians. In the mean time, they will not see without uneasiness the increase of our troops in Gallicia, and will be careful of provoking us.”

The Emperor yesterday signed the order which was submitted to him, for rendering moveable an army of 70,000 men in Gallicia and in the Buckowine.

(Signed) OTTO.

## (No. VIII.)

*From the same to the same.**Vienna, Feb. 15, 1813.*

Monseigneur,

The grand gala of the 1st of January having been deferred to the Emperor's birth-day, there was yesterday a very brilliant assemblage at court, and a public dinner.

After the audience, Count de Metternich spoke to me with an effusion of heart of the good effects, produced by the last reports of Count Bubna. He said to me, among other things, "Your alliance with Russia was monstrous; it had only one very precarious point *d'appel*, that of the exclusion of English commerce. It was a war alliance, dictated by the conqueror: it should be dissolved. Ours, on the contrary, is founded upon connections and interests the most natural, the most permanent, the most essentially necessary; it must be as eternal as the wants which have caused it. It is we who sought it, and we deeply reflected before concluding it. If we had again to make it, we would not wish it different to what it is; we would have it quite entire: it



placed us in peace, and will eventually serve to consolidate it.

“ Prince Schwartzenberg arrived yesterday. It is intended to send him off immediately to Paris, for the double purpose of informing his Majesty of the actual position of things, and of giving Europe a striking proof of the disposition of Austria, by making appear at the court of France, the commander of an auxiliary corps, going to his chief to receive his orders.” These are the minister’s own words: he puts the utmost value on seizing upon every occurrence calculated to convince the courts of London and St. Petersburg of the intimate connection which subsists between France and Austria.

(No. IX.)

*From the same to the same.*

Vienna, Feb. 17, 1813.

M. de Metternich yesterday sent me the writing of which I had the honour of speaking to you in No. 443; This document, drawn up with much care by the minister himself, will

serve as an introduction to the orders of the cabinet, which are about to appear, relative to the recruiting of the army. I have the honour of accompanying this with a translation of it.

"This kind of declaration," said the minister to me, "is not a public manifesto, it is a document purely administrative; but it may produce a good effect in Russia and in England. Demanding from the nation new sacrifices, conveys an assurance of two essential points; the one, that our system of alliance is immovable; and the other, that we arm only to obtain a general pacification. I would have deferred the publication of this document, if I had not reason for supposing your master will speak to a similar purport in his speech upon opening the legislative body. In that case, our proceedings would have the appearance of being dictated by you; whilst to render it efficacious for us, it must have all the characters of being spontaneous. These words, 'after having definitively fixed its political relations,' say every thing, without weakening the means of mediation which His Majesty proposes to employ. You know that it is only in Russia we have made efforts to prevent the war; you have no occasion for it among you. Russia will comprehend us, but she will find nothing offensive in this expres-

sion. She will also comprehend what the phrase means which concludes this document, when we shew the desire of removing the theatre of war far from our frontiers."

Here began a conversation, which the minister prolonged for more than two hours, and which, I believed, was occasioned by the last dispatches from Count de Bubna, which the minister had read to me the preceding evening. It would be useless to follow this disclosure through all its details; I here confine myself to offer the point of view under which Count de Metternich considers the actual situation of things.

The minister began by repeating to me, that he only endeavoured to more and more establish a confidence and complete understanding between the two Cabinets. Afterwards entering upon the subject, he told me, that the idea of an armed mediation might have caused a momentary surprise at Paris; but that the word mediation, the value of which was perfectly understood in the Cabinet of Vienna, had never been pronounced here; that Count de Bubna and M. de Florot had ever been forbidden to use that word; that we had first made use of it; that, on the contrary, it mentioned it but as the interposition of an ally, who, fatigued with em-

barrassments of war, wished to accelerate its conclusion; that the idea of an armed mediation would be entirely void of sense in respect to England, Austria having no means of attacking that power. "Our alliance with France," added he, "is so necessary to France, that if you break it to-day, we will propose to you to-morrow to re-establish it absolutely upon the same condition. France has done us much injury, but it is our interest to forget the past. We wish at this moment to be useful to her, because at some future time she will be able to render us a similar service. This alliance has not been the result of a war, or a condition of peace like that of Tilsit; it is the effect of deep reflection, and it has been prepared by approaches successive and spontaneous. Lay down as a fact, and consider as an incontestible fact, that we will only seek your good; that we no longer dread France, but the Russians, whose power you yourselves, by successive concessions, have augmented."

The minister here entered into long arguments, to shew that Austria had need of peace to recover herself; that at this moment she only followed the impulse of her own interest, which has existed since the treaty concluded by Prince Kaunitz; that she demanded nothing, absolutely nothing but peace; but that in negotiating she

was in no ways disposed to favour Russia, her natural enemy; that the equilibrium of Europe, the inutility of which several writers have for some time endeavoured to demonstrate, is not a chimera; that it is essentially founded upon the affinity of interests between the different nations, and will always be the basis of their policy: that on the one side, France, Austria, and the Ottoman Porte—on the other side, Russia and England, will fill the scales of that balance: that notwithstanding this apparent equilibrium, France will always preserve a preponderance, which belongs to her position and inexhaustible riches; that this preponderance is a fact of which no person can entertain a doubt even under the late Kings, but that it became a motive for jealousy, when, after the most astonishing successes, France appeared to wish to establish it as a *right*; that during that victorious march of our armies, Russia had succeeded with giant steps towards dominion, and that she was arriving at her end by the most insinuating forms; that having acquired much more territory than us, she has so well disguised her ambition, that nations, far from hating her, appeared to have willingly acceded to her encroachments; but that France pacified, would put an end to that slight importance of the Russians; and that she would resume all the ascendancy of her power, her

pecuniary means, and her moderation would guarantee to her for ever: in short, that peace alone would be to France, and Austria, her ally, a more solid conquest than could all those derived from a fortunate campaign.

Such are, Monseigneur, uniformly the principles and the views of this Cabinet.

The Prince of Schwartzenberg will serve as the interpreter of them to his Majesty.

(Signed) OTTO.

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(No. X.)

*From the same to the same.*

*Vienna, March 8, 1813.*

Monseigneur,

I was yesterday to have gone to Count Metternich, to be informed of communications which had just been made to him by M. de Stakelberg; but the minister wrote to me, that his occupations would not permit of his seeing me, and that he requested I would call upon him this morning.

I went at ten o'clock; the minister informed me, that he had read the dispatches from the Emperor Alexander, and that he was perfectly satisfied with the tone of moderation which reigned in them.

“Russia not only accepts the Austrian plenipotentiary, but even her interference for peace. The Emperor of Russia regrets that Austria will not profit by the present favourable circumstances to recover her losses; but he respects her motives: he has no other object than the re-establishment of the tranquillity of Europe, and the conclusion of a general peace. The political system of Austria being definitively fixed, Russia will not suffer any proceedings to turn her from it.”

Such is, in a few words, the substance of the first reply: the minister, nevertheless, confessed to me, that Russia took infinite pains to draw Austria into her alliance, but that she would not succeed.

This first step of Russia is but a reply to the demand concerning M. de Lebzeltern's mission.

Intelligence is daily expected of plenipotentiaries; and immediately after the arrival of this

account, Prince Schwartzberg will set out to confer with your Excellency.

(Signed) OTTO.

(No. XI.)

*From the same to the same.*

*Vienna, March 20, 1813.*

Monseigneur,

Count de Narbonne arrived here on the 17th, and delivered to me the letters for my recall, which your Excellency has done me the honour of addressing to me. They shall be presented to-morrow, and on the same morning my successor will deliver his credentials.

The Austrian cabinet has at last received intelligence from M. Lebzeltern; and an official reply from M. de Nesselrode, the original of which Count Metternich has sent me, and a copy of which I have the honour to send with this. This document is drawn up in a manner to accommodate itself to all the interpretations which it may be wished to give it.

It announces the desire of peace, but with



modifications, which prove how much Russia fears compromising herself with England. We do not understand what Russia means by the *guarantees of peace*, unless she means by those words the convocation of a congress, where the principal powers of Europe should agree to the establishment of a state of things permanent, and sanctioned by each of them. In reality, the best guarantee for Russia is in its geographical position. It is rather against her, that Austria, Turkey, and Germany, require a guarantee, which will either be found in the preponderance of France, or in a formal agreement to preserve in common the limits which shall have been fixed by the treaty.

The objection was foreseen here, which Russia would take to the friendly interposition of a power actually at war with her; and the Chevalier de Lebzeltern was charged to reply to it. To us, however, this objection is a fresh proof, that there subsists between the two courts no secret understanding, which can render the candour of Austria suspicious. This deduction is the more just, because in the same document Russia makes no scruple of acknowledging her intimate connection with England, which she declares to be her ally; so much so, that her consent appears to be necessary for opening

negotiations for peace. There has existed since the 11th of March (the date of M. de Nesselrode's letter) a formal treaty between the two courts; and as this understanding was no ways necessary to cause the evasive reply of Russia, it proves that she considers this new alliance as a great advantage.

The defection of Prussia is positively announced by M. de Nesselrode's letter, but it is not yet proved by an official declaration. Count de Metternich only waits for this moment, to make at Breslau the same overture which has been made in England and Russia. Count Zichy, Austrian minister, has been provisionally ordered to leave the court of Prussia; and all communication with Baron de Humboldt, Prussian minister at Vienna, has been interrupted.

Count de Metternich has just read to me, with the greatest satisfaction, the dispatches which he has received from Count de Bubna and M. de Floret, to the 9th of March inclusive.

They give a detailed account of the conversations which they have had with his Majesty, and with your Excellency; and their result has caused the most sensible pleasure.

Count de Narbonne will not fail informing your Excellency of the preparations which have been made here to man a frontier, much more exposed than it was at the commencement of the war, as it extends from Czerniwitz to the Egra. To meet the expense occasioned by those preparations, the Emperor has appointed a commission, charged with establishing a just mean between the extreme heavy system of taxation proposed by M. de Wallis and the bank, and the system suggested by other financiers. This commission began its sittings yesterday; Count de Stadion is the president of it.

(Signed) Otto.

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*Document joined to the preceding Dispatch.*

M. le Comte,

In the absence of Count de Romanzoff, who has been detained at St. Petersburg on important business, the Emperor has ordered me to reply to the official dispatch, of which Chevalier de Lebzeltern was the bearer. His Majesty has directed to that document the attention which a proceeding caused by an object of so high importance demands. Always free from passion; his political principles have never changed; he

wishes for peace, but a peace with such guarantees as Austria herself ought to desire. However, it must be admitted, it is for the first time that a power still at war proposes to interpose for peace. Forms and customs are at variance with such a prerogative. But his Imperial Majesty has it so much at heart to give the Emperor, your august master, an unequivocal proof of his confidence and his esteem, that he does not allow himself to be guided by such considerations. This manner of receiving your propositions should give the explanations a character of frankness, which can alone ensure the progress of a negotiation, tending to conciliate such great interests. It remains, then, to be considered, that since the date of your ministerial letter, Prussia, from motives of which Europe will judge, has joined her arms to the Russian arms, and in this way presents several interests combined into one. The ties are too strong between Russia and Great Britain, too intimate between Russia and Prussia, too strongly established with Sweden, to allow her to separate her cause from that of any of the powers allied with her. The Emperor, in consequence, orders me to declare in his name, that he will accept of the interposition of Austria, in the event of its being equally accepted by England, Prussia, and Sweden. You yourself will judge,

that it would be impossible for his Majesty to make a more categorical reply, or one more friendly. His Majesty the Emperor of Austria will find the same principles on all occasions. They are considered with us as the only means of obtaining the results proposed.

I have the honour to be, &c.  
(Signed) Count de NESSELRODE.

*Kalisch, Feb. 27, (1 March) 1813.*

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(No. XII.)

[This is merely an Imperial edict from the Emperor of Germany, for the creation of a fund of 45,000,000 of florins in paper money, under the denomination of *billets d'anticipation*.]

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## (No. XIII.)

*Verbal Note from the Austrian Ambassador,  
Prince Schwartzenberg.**Paris, April 22, 1813.*

In the conference which the ambassador from Austria had yesterday with his Excellency the Duke of Bassano, minister for foreign affairs, he had the honour to explain himself agreeably to the meaning of the dispatches which he has just received from his court, respecting the contents of the verbal note transmitted by the ambassador, Count de Narbonne, to the minister, Count Metternich.

His Excellency having requested the ambassador, considering the importance of the questions, to give him a summary of them in a verbal note, he hastened to satisfy that wish. His Majesty the Emperor having at heart, that at this important critical moment the most perfect understanding should continue to subsist between him and his august ally, believes that this understanding cannot be better consolidated than by the most complete reciprocal knowledge of the two courts: he has, in consequence, determined upon explaining himself, with all frankness, upon

the overtures which have been made to his minister by the French ambassador. His Majesty finds that the objects to which these overtures lead, are completely divided into four principal questions.

1. The attitude of Austria to bring about a negotiation, and during this negotiation.

2. Accord between the two courts of Austria and France, respecting the general arrangements of pacification.

3. The attitude of Austria in the event of the negotiations not leading to a peace.

4. Military operations in this last case.

Ans. 1. According to the terms in which the ambassador expresses himself in his verbal note :

Austria, who has made the first proposals for peace, and who so anxiously wishes it, should like to obtain this end, a decided character, insist upon the immediate opening of a negotiation, demand that plenipotentiaries should be named, an armistice concluded, and enter into the contest as a principal party. To attain this end, there exists but one single diplomatic form, that of armed mediation ; his Majesty con-

sequently binds himself to take that attitude. He will hold the language of it to the allied Courts, and neglect nothing to give all possible weight to his language. The idea of an immediate assembling of plenipotentiaries coincides with the views of the Austrian Cabinet, which, nevertheless, waits the arrival of its first courier from its ambassador, to see what will be the form his Majesty the Emperor Napoleon will choose to regulate its proceedings; that is to say, to know if his Imperial Majesty will think proper to spontaneously proceed to the nomination of a negociator, or wait the uniform demand which the Court of Vienna will address upon this subject to all the Courts interested: we expect that this same courier will bring intelligence from Baron de Wessenberg, who probably arrived in London on the 24th or 25th of March. Whatever the reply may be, made by the British Cabinet, it will be important to know it; for in the supposition of its being favourable, the pretence that Russia would with reason advance, of wishing, before entering into negotiations, of knowing the intention of her allies, can no longer exist; and the proceedings of the Austrian Cabinet towards the Emperor Alexander and King of Prussia, in the supposition of an English negative reply, assume a decided character in



the sense of a negotiation for a continental peace.

**Ans. 2.** Previous to entering into details upon this important object, the Austrian Cabinet must wait the first replies from its ambassador at Paris, as to what he expects when the Emperor Napoleon shall have more explicitly stated his ideas.

**Ans. 3.** It results from the nature of things, and is very easy to be seen, that the Emperor of the French partakes the conversion of the Austrian Cabinet; that the proceeding of events, the approach of the theatre of war upon an extent of more than 400 leagues upon the most important points of the Austrian frontiers, no longer admits of the Emperor taking a part, as a power simply auxiliary in the war, if against her dearest rights it should continue. The French and confederated army opened the campaign in 1812 as a principal army, more than 400,000 men, and upon a line the most distant from the frontiers of the monarchy, a corps of observation, inferior in number to the auxiliary corps, was then sufficient to cover that corps, whilst now it requires 100,000 men to cover the immense frontier touching the presumed theatre of war. In such

a position of things, so different to that of last year, there will, undoubtedly, remain nothing for Austria to do, if her mediation should not have the desirable result, than a choice between the two only posts stated, either to retire behind her frontiers, neutralizing her territories, or take a most active part in the war as a principal party. His Majesty cannot, therefore, but agree in the opinion of his Majesty the Emperor of the French, that the stipulations of the succours limited by the treaty of alliance are not applicable to the circumstances of the moment. This particular position of things, and independent of Austria, prejudices in nothing the basis of her alliance with France.

The alliance of 1812, although brought about by circumstances, does not the less offer a real and solid political basis to the two high contracting Powers. This alliance cannot be confounded with treaties (we cannot except any of them) contracted by France since the wars of the Revolution; that of the 14th March offers the most perfect reciprocity, it therefore contains the first of conditions for its duration. His Majesty the Emperor of the French himself admits that the treaty of Tilsit, and the alliance between Russia and France, are very distant from that with Austria. If Russia, feeling the

necessity of modifying her relations with France, did not enter into explanations with her ally, she did wrong, and, in particular, did not follow the counsels of the Court of Vienna. If the Emperor Francis found a word to change in the basis of his alliance, he would be the first to mention it. By common consent, the restrictions laid down, according to the text of the treaty, in respect to the military engagement of Austria, may be changed in a war, the entire nature of which, and even the ground on which it is carried on, has changed: this case has happened. The Emperor will, in proportion, extend his military exertions, if the coalesced Powers should not agree to reasonable arrangements, although the succours stipulated by the treaty of the 14th of March, are only for 80,000 men, both of these chances result even from the force of circumstances. The assurance that the Emperor does not find a word to alter in his written engagements with France, proves, more than any arguments could, how very natural and convenient those engagements appear to him, especially in a time of repose, which forms his Majesty's most pleasant reveries, and that the bonds which unite him to France will become essentially strengthened.

Ans. 4.—It is essential that the Emperor of

the French should know, very exactly, the positions of the different Austrian corps d'armée, for the reason assigned in Article 4.

The auxiliary corps, after being insured by a momentary suspension of hostilities, of the possibility of occupying the last point in the Duchy of Warsaw, was in a condition to admit, within its radius, the remains of the Polish army, and protect it against the superiority of the Russians. The General commanding this corps had expressed, after the retreat of the fifth corps upon Czenlochoff, Prince Poniatowski's wish that it should be placed in the Austrian circle, in order not vainly to excite the enemy's attention, and lead it to ruinous intrigues on account of the fifth corps, and compromise the abode of the Austrian troops in the circle of Cracow.

The Poles, far from following this prudent and benevolent counsel, acted quite contrary, and it was only after having been uselessly harassed, and losing several thousand men, that they at last ranged themselves behind the Austrian line, continuing, however, to still attract the Russians' attention by useless provocations. From that time they appeared to have adopted the resolution of dislodging the Polish corps placed on their flank and in their rear. This supposition,

very material in itself, acquired more strength by the motions and assembling of their troops.

The Emperor determined upon not uselessly sacrificing men for the preservation of a circle entirely exhausted, and no longer offering any resources to the troops, which must have been provisioned in every thing from the Austrian provinces, transmitted the eventual instruction accompanying this to General Fremont. The General did not then find himself under the necessity of using it, the denunciation of the armistice not having taken place on the part of the Russians.

The retreat of the Poles upon the Austrian territories was attended, in every respect, with the most disagreeable complications. It could only be effected on that point the most embarrassing for the subsistence of the troops; that part of Cracow, at the upper part, is but a narrow neck between the Carpathians and Silesia. It found, on this point, troops belonging to the army of the Prince de Reuss, and the corps of General Fremont was too numerous to be provided for with them, without reciprocally starting each other.

The Emperor would not, in any other case,

have permitted the Poles to swarm in his States; but he admitted of an exception to an invariable principle, and hitherto so fortunately maintained, not to allow any foreign troops to touch or cross, finding that this chance offered fewer inconveniences than that of the abode of a troop, to which, in a military point of view, he renders complete justice, but which, on all occasions, expressed and conducted itself more like an enemy towards the Austrians, than even towards the Russians.

A convention for the passage of the Poles and weak remains of the Saxon corps of Goblentz has just been concluded with General Watzdorff. The ambassador has the honour of sending it with this; he flatters himself that your Excellency will find it a conversion, that Austria has used in this affair all possible delicacy towards the General and troops in question. As to Goblentz corps is joined the remains of a French battalion, the Emperor has thought fit to give a particular mark of his attention to this troop, by explicitly ordering that the commander of the battalion should also preserve a company under arms.

His Imperial Majesty considers the present moment as that which must decide the fate of

Europe, by deciding that of the intermediary Powers. Neither France nor Russia have any risk to run ; the quarrel must either be terminated by an agreement, so desirable among great Powers, or drag into an abyss, difficult to be measured, Austria and other States, useful to the very existence of the two Courts of France and Russia. The Emperor of Austria will remain faithful to his character. He will not confine his proceedings in favour of that cause which he considers it his duty to plead—that of peace, in simple words ; and if exaggerations possible in the views of the coalesced Cabinets should prevail over the reason and moderation which his Imperial Majesty will not cease to profess, he will place, without hesitation, an imposing force in the balance of the power which she considers her natural ally.

His Majesty must wait the first explanation which shall take place between his ambassador and the French minister, upon general bases ; before being able to propose an armistice. This step would offer, in the actual position of things, and without being accompanied by any explanation whatever, but compromises the more gratuitous for Austria and France, that the allies would consider such a demand as a proof of weakness, and that, as such, far from serving

his Majesty the Emperor of the French, they would place his attitude to the losses he had sustained, and that of Austria in an entirely false point of view, by prodigiously raising in the eyes of Europe the coalesced powers.

The ambassador thinks it right to add here, that at the moment when his dispatches were drawn up at Vienna, his Majesty's minister had not then received those which he had addressed to him since his return to Paris, and which contain a developement of the ideas of his Majesty the Emperor of the French upon that subject.

The ambassador ought not again to fail observing how much the very particular situation, in which actual circumstances place the Emperor in regard to his own people, demands the attention of his august ally, and how much they positively deserve to be taken into his calculations.

The Austrian nation, fatigued by so many years of calamities, has but one wish—that of the repose which will permit its government to cure past misfortunes, establish order in the finances, and reverse the ancient prosperity of the State, which for a length of time the nation had ceased to enjoy. The alliance with France



should realize all those hopes, and it is only under this point of view that, after a long series of sufferings, this new order of things would have become popular. However, the war in the North broke out; the part which the Emperor took in it imposed unexpected sacrifices on his subjects; they were borne; but they, with pain, saw that the consequences of the new political system were not yet felt in a manner as beneficial as the wants of the nation demanded.

The events of the last campaign deceived all calculations. The Emperor not having thought proper to take part in that war but partially, suddenly saw an immense extent of his frontiers threatened; notwithstanding the great embarrassment of the actual state of the finances, circumstances imperiously demanded that considerable forces should be in activity; the Emperor was forced to have recourse to his subjects, in place of the repose he had promised them as the fruit of the new order of policy, every thing pre-saged a general war. In this order of things, there remains but one part for the Emperor to take---it is, to manage the good will of the nation, as the most precious basis of his resources. To obtain this there is only one way, that of declaring, that he alone arms for the purpose of obtaining a speedy and solid peace.

(No. XIV.)

*Note transmitted to Count Metternich by the  
Ambassador from France.*

*Vienna, April 21, 1813.*

The ambassador of his Majesty the Emperor of the French had the honour of giving his Excellency Count Metternich, minister of state for foreign affairs, a communication from the dispatch of the Duke of Bassano, of the 11th April. This dispatch, in announcing that his Majesty the Emperor would probably be at Mayence, where later intelligence states that he arrived on the 16th, contains exactly the passages which the undersigned is going to place before your Excellency. His Majesty told Prince Schwartzberg, to whom I repeated it. As soon as I shall have arrived at my first head-quarters in Germany, I will send to General Fremont, by a courier who shall pass through Prague, an order to denounce the armistice; you ought therefore to inform Count de Metternich of it, and unreservedly explain yourself to him on the subject, that you may positively assure yourself that my orders shall be executed without discussions. It will also be proper that M. de Metternich should inform General Fremont, in order to prevent all

possible misunderstanding, the consequences of which might be very disagreeable.

In another paragraph, he says, "it is very probable that the order for denouncing the armistice shall be sent by his Majesty between the 22d and 25th. It has become of the highest importance that General Fremont should be punctually informed of it."

The undersigned, in making known to his Excellency the Count de Metternich, his Majesty's intentions, does not in the least doubt, that in the reply, he should receive a full and entire acquiescence in intentions so strictly conformable to the last treaty at Paris.

It is therefore with equal surprise as pain, that the day following this communication, he learned from the mouth even of the Count de Metternich, that the auxiliary corps, under the orders of General Fremont, would not permit any hostility against the Russians; and without waiting the term of fifteen days stipulated by the armistice, and consequently without knowing whether he should or should not be attacked, General Fremont put himself in full march to effect his retreat.

The undersigned was the more inclined to believe that at least the term of fifteen days would be observed, as when, on the 16th inst. his Excellency Count de Metternich decided to give M. de Libzeltern orders to demand the revocation of the denunciation of the armistice, which took place on the 12th, he had calculated that the reply directly conveyed to General Fremont would have reached him before he could have effected his movement, and that orders should be dispatched to him to that effect. It is easy to foresee that if this arrangement had been fulfilled, the orders of his Majesty the Emperor of the French, which ought to have been expedited to Erfurth on the 20th, would have easily reached the commandant of the auxiliary corps before the expiration of fifteen days.

The undersigned is therefore induced to believe, that those orders were not properly executed, as it is all kinds of hostilities that Austria wishes to avoid. Undoubtedly his Majesty the Emperor of the French will see with extreme satisfaction, the wishes of Austria for peace fulfilled; and that she should use all her means and all her efforts to procure it to Europe; but he never understood, nor will he be able to understand, that this wish for peace should annul an

existing treaty. This treaty stipulates an auxiliary corps. This auxiliary corps must be under the orders of his Majesty the Emperor; if it is not obeyed, what has not a right to be inferred from it?

The undersigned, whose first instruction is to use every exertion to maintain good understanding between the two empires, on every occasion to prove the sentiments which animates the Emperor his master, for his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, believes that the best means for fulfilling so sacred a duty, is to maintain to the utmost of his power the treaties so happily subsisting between their Majesties.

He therefore appeals to that of Paris, to induce his Excellency Count de Metternich to immediately give orders to General Fremont, to preserve, by all possible means, the position the armistice designated him, and that he there shall wait the orders his Majesty the Emperor of the French may be pleased to send to him.

(Signed) L. NARBONNE.

(No. XV.)

*Note transmitted by Count de Metternich to  
Count de Narbonne.*

*Vienna, April 26, 1813.*

The undersigned, Minister of State for foreign affairs, has submitted to the Emperor the note which the French ambassador did him the honor to address to him on the 21st inst. He has received orders to give his Excellency the following reply :

The Emperor has nothing more at heart than the preservation of the relations of friendship and good understanding of his Majesty the Emperor of the French. His Imperial Majesty has given, in moments of the most critical importance, too many proofs of his sentiments, not to depend simply upon facts.

“ At the same time that Austria made formal overtures of peace to several Courts, instantly separated from each other, that she would enter into conferences upon subjects perhaps the most complicated that ever presented themselves in policy; the events of war, and military preparations did not on that account receive less de-

velopement. Immense armies were found in presence of each other. The wishes of Austria in favour of peace, far from weakening the approach of a great and new crisis, only have confirmed it in a more decided manner. Had the Emperor only half desired this peace, the necessity of which is so universally felt, he would not have acted as he has done. It is therefore with great satisfaction that his Imperial Majesty is convinced, not only by the communication which his Excellency the ambassador from hence has made, from the contents of the Duke of Bassano's dispatches, but also by Prince Schwartzberg's reports, that by the developement of new means, he has met the wishes of his Majesty the Emperor of the French.

The communication made by Count de Narbonne, in form of a verbal note, of the 7th April, contains what follows. After having placed in opposition with the pacific intentions of France, the appearance of sentiments very different on the part of Russia, his Excellency the ambassador says ;—

“ In this conjuncture, Austria, who stands so prominently forward for peace, and who so anxiously desires it, must take, to obtain this end, a determined character, insist upon the immediate

opening of a negotiation, and enter into the contest as a principal party. In the beginning of May, when the Emperor of the French shall be in person upon the right bank of the Elbe with 300,000 men, Austria should reinforce the army of Cracow, and carry it, with Prince Poniatowsky, to more than 150,000 men. Those movements having place in April, the army concentrating itself should place itself in a defensive position, but in readiness to resume the offensive. A corps of 30 or 40,000 should be assembled in Bohemia, and on the day of the Emperor's arrival at the head of the army of the Mein upon the Elbe, the Austrian minister should make his declaration to the Emperor Alexander; the army of Cracow should denounce the armistice, and the troops from Bohemia march from their entrenchments, &c. The military means of Austria should be raised to 100,000 men, for the army of Silesia, from 30 to 50,000 men, for that of Cracow, the remainder remain at the disposition of France, in the Bukowine and Galicia.

"In reply to the overtures offered in this communication, his Imperial Majesty directed his ambassador at the Imperial Court of France to be furnished with orders, dated the 14th April, which the undersigned has had the honour of



communicating to his Excellency the ambassador.

This reply from his Majesty, in substance, stated, that his Imperial Majesty and Apostolic King had decided upon taking the attitude of an armed mediation, as the only one that the Imperial courts found to be consistent with the actual position of things: that nevertheless his Imperial Majesty would declare at the same time, that if, contrary to his dearest wishes, the return of peace should not crown his wishes, Austria, in consequence of her attitude as a mediating power, and of the geographical situation of her empire, could not henceforth take part in the war in the quality of a power simply auxiliary; and that consequently, the stipulations of the succours limited by the alliance of the 14th March, 1812, would cease being applicable to the present conjuncture.

Although the Emperor was far from believing that this determination, brought about as much by the force of circumstances as the views and wishes of his Majesty the Emperor Napoleon, could be considered as an abandonment of the alliance of the two Imperial Courts, his Imperial Majesty has, nevertheless, directed his ambassador to add to that declaration, that that step

would in nothing prejudice the basis of our alliance with France.

The simple recital of those transactions would be sufficient to completely reply to the note of the French ambassador, if the Emperor did not believe it proper to point out that this note was addressed to the undersigned after the denunciation of the armistice by the Russians had completely changed the order of things presumed by his Majesty the Emperor of the French to still exist in the duchy of Warsaw.

The Emperor Francis, before having reason for believing, from the movements of the Russian corps, that their intention was to dislodge the Austrian corps from the circle it occupied in the duchy of Warsaw, had, by an order, with which the court of France was acquainted, prohibited Lieutenant-General De Fremont from engaging in affairs that might compromise his corps d'armée. The motives for his determination were amply detailed in the dispatch to the Prince Schwartzberg, dated the 14th March. The undersigned can only refer, on this head to its contents.

If, however, the armistice had not been denounced on the part of the Russian General, the

Emperor would not, on his part, have hesitated to make representations against a denunciation on his side. That measure, in fine, could only be regarded under two points of view—as the means of war or negociation. The Emperor is convinced, that it does not belong to the mediating power to be the first in opening the campaign; as the means of peace, the Emperor is not less convinced that it is not with 30,000 men he can support his mediation, and that the most efficacious means of negociation are found, of which his Majesty the Emperor of the French has expressed a persuasion, in the developement of more imposing forces, all directed to one only and single end—peace; in a developement which should leave no doubt that the mediating power would be ready, in the event of not succeeding, to appear upon the scene as a principal party, and to give to her pacific interference the necessary support.

The undersigned, in transmitting to Count de Narbonne the present reply, is expressly charged to reiterate to his Excellency the assurances which he verbally received in the last audience from the Emperor, of the unchangeableness of the sentiments which his Imperial Majesty bears to his august master.

The minister of state and foreign affairs has the honour to present to the ambassador the assurance of his high consideration.

(Signed) METTERNICH.

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*Documents relative to the proceedings of the Cabinet of Vienna in the exercise of the mediation and at the Congress at Prague.*

France, allied to Austria, made it a point of duty to communicate to her, with the most entire confidence, the details of her military dispositions, and of the immense means she had collected for the defence of the common cause: but the Cabinet of Vienna, which had adopted the passions of the enemies of France, partook also of their delusions; and nothing could equal its surprize when it was informed that victory had crowned our arms at Lutzen. It sent Count de Bubna to Dresden. The stay of the Austrian ambassador, which for the moment kept the minister for foreign affairs at Paris, prevented him from being with his Majesty. He confided to the Duke of Vicenza the care of hearing Count Bubna, and discovering the reasons which had determined his mission. The protestations

which the Cabinet of Vienna had so long used, and which Count de Bubna renewed, respecting the pacific intentions of Austria, and its attachment to the alliance, ill concealed the ambition of that Cabinet.

It was evident that the armaments with which it supported its own pretensions, and independent of those of the enemy, had for their object to obtain possession of the Illyrian provinces and part of the duchy of Warsaw, the establishment of a new frontier upon the Inn, and arrangements destructive to the Confederation of the Rhine.

The Emperor proposed by Count Bubna, (No. 1.) the assembling of a general congress. He demanded that a negotiator should be furnished with powers to conclude a convention which would regulate the acceptance of the mediation.

Count de Bubna left Dresden, and proceeded to give an account of his mission.

The Emperor marched against the Russian and Prussian armies, which had halted in their retreat, and taken a position at Bautzen. However great his confidence of victory, he resolved

to endeavour to prevent a battle. He gave the Duke of Vicenza powers to propose and conclude an armistice (2;)—but the enemies chose to try the chance of another battle; they were conquered at Wurtzchen,

They then made the demand of an Armistice, through an Austrian agent, who resided at the head-quarters of the Combined Armies (3.) This letter, on the 28th May, found the Emperor in Silesia. In the powers given by the General in Chief, Barclay de Tolly, to the Russian and Prussian Commissioners, to treat for an armistice, he openly announced, *that the armistice should have for object to hear the propositions of the mediating Power* (4), to hear her dictate the law. The powers of the French Plenipotentiaries, more liberal, more generous, were confined to announcing the object towards which all the Emperor's wishes were directed. The Duke of Vicenza went to Plesswitz, and the armistice was concluded (5.)

The Cabinet of Vienna was charged with making known the acceptance of the mediation by Russia and Prussia, and it remained silent;—the appointment of plenipotentiaries on the part of the enemy, and it remained silent.

The French government had demanded, that its acceptance of the mediation should be stipulated by convention, and the Cabinet of Vienna did not give powers to any person to negotiate it.

Count de Bubna had returned to the Imperial quarters. He was pressed to seriously treat on affairs of such importance: he notified the acceptance of Russia and Prussia (6;) and when it was wished to enter into explanations with him, he was found without authority and without power. Thus the Cabinet of Vienna allowed the month of June to be spent without the congress being opened.

The minister for foreign affairs then addressed to M. de Metternich two notes, in which he explained the views of France, upon the question relative to the alliance, the mediation, and the negotiations for peace (7 and 8.) M. de Metternich replied, and brought his replies to Dresden (9 and 10,) They gave rise to several notes which were exchanged during his stay (11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 17,) upon the question of alliance. He proposed to prejudge nothing against the existence of the alliance, and to suspend the stipulations of it, as if it could exist without producing its effect.

It was beneath the dignity of the French government to descend to these subtleties. It declared it would consider the wish of the Cabinet of Vienna, to carry its reserves to the letter of the whole treaty, as equivalent to the renunciation of the alliance (16.) The Cabinet of France demanded, on the question of negociation, that it should extend to a general peace, and that it should take place in congress, and in the forms consecrated by custom; and that the resumption of hostilities should not arrest its course. Upon the question of mediation, it proposed, as a basis for the convention to be concluded, that Austria, animated by the most perfect disinterestedness, should not present herself as an arbitrator.

As to an extension of the negociation to a general peace, which was always the wish of the Emperor, M. de Metternich desired not immediately to come to an absolute engagement upon it; but it was agreed that the mediator would charge himself to make the proposal of it to all the Powers. A project was drawn up (18:) M. de Metternich took it with him, and charged himself with sounding and making known in this respect, the dispositions of Russia and Prussia. In respect to the continuations of the negociation during the resumption of hostilities, the



Austrian Plenipotentiary preferred a prolongation of the armistice, which Austria would undertake to have accepted, and the French government did not refuse it. As to the forms of the negotiations, and to the expression of the intentions of the mediator, M. de Metternich gave all the explanations, and made all the declarations, which were demanded of him. The Emperor consented, on condition that the convention should be confined to the proposition and the acceptance of the mediation, the assembling of plenipotentiaries at Prague before the 5th of July, and the prolongation of the armistice (19.)

The Cabinet of Vienna successively, and under different pretences, deferred the opening of the congress to the 8th, and then to the 12th of July (20 and 21.) It did not put itself in a condition to make Russia and Prussia accede to the engagement entered into for the prolongation of the armistice. It was requisite to have recourse to a commission, charged with its execution, to overcome difficulty upon difficulty (22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, and 32.) In fine, the prolongation of the armistice was concluded on the 26th at Neumarkt, and the plenipotentiaries were assembled at Prague on the 27th of July.

The choice of Russia had fallen upon a man, who, born a Frenchman, and convinced of his incapacity for so honourable a mission, had only acquired in matters of business, the character of an agent of England, and who in 1805 was her principal instrument to induce Austria to war.

The Emperor might have been indignant at such a choice, and rejected a man who had rejected the laws of the empire (1;) but his desire for peace made him pass over these considerations. He appointed to discuss his interests at the congress, persons the most worthy of his confidence, and who, by the rank they held with him, and in the State, as well as by their personal qualities, enjoyed in the highest degree the public esteem and consideration.

Count de Narbonne had already received his full powers which authorised the plenipotentiaries to treat separately or jointly. He, in consequence proposed to open the negotiations. When the Duke of Vicenza arrived at Prague, it appeared that nothing could oppose the immediate opening of the congress, and there was every reason for hoping the negotiations would proceed rapidly: but that system of incidents and obstacles incessantly arising, followed till then

by the Austrian Cabinet, received a new development.

The French plenipotentiaries hastened to demand on the 26th of July of the minister mediator, that the opening of the congress should immediately take place by a first conference, in which they should proceed in the usual manner to the verification and reciprocal communication of their full powers. No objection could have reasonably been expected respecting an affair of form, so simple and founded on immemorial custom. Nevertheless the plenipotentiary from the mediating court refused this demand. Desired to explain himself upon the motives which at the beginning could induce him to create an obstacle so unexpected, he only replied by proposing a mode of negotiation which excluded all direct communication between the respective plenipotentiaries, and confined the part of the negotiators to transmit by writing their proposition to the Austrian minister, who thus constituted himself an arbitrator.

M. de Metternich forgot the notes he had transmitted to Dresden, and the declarations which had been made to him, and to which he had acceded, that the French government accepted a *mediation*, and not an arbitration, and

that it did not mean to negotiate but in the usual forms, and by plenipotentiaries, who should assemble, with those of other belligerent powers, to enter upon explanations.

The French plenipotentiaries declared they could not consent to any other form than that of conferences, in which they would be held to the protocol, which would unite to the incontestable advantages of verbal discussions, those which are considered to be found in negotiations by writing. Notwithstanding this previous explanation, the Austrian minister insisted in his pretension, and founding himself upon this proposition made in the object of a note which he addressed to the different plenipotentiaries. In this note he supported himself by the example of Teschen (33.)

However, no person was ignorant that nothing could be less applicable to the circumstances than that example: for at Teschen there were conferences, and the pretension had never been raised there, any more than at any other congress, of negotiating without seeing and without speaking to each other. In truth, this basis had been previously laid down by writing; a mode then rendered obligatory, because the mediators were some at Vienna and others at Berlin. But

even that proved the impossibility of following a similar method at Prague. Not only had no basis been adopted, but no preliminary explanation had taken place upon the ground-work of the negotiation. Notwithstanding considerations so striking, the Russian and Prussian plenipotentiaries agreeing with the plenipotentiary of the mediator, hastened to adopt his proposition (34.)

Whatever efforts the French plenipotentiaries made in these official conferences, which they had successively with the plenipotentiary of the mediator, on the 30th of July, and 1st and 5th of August, they were not able to overcome his obstinacy. Forgetting in this conjuncture what he owed at least to circumstances, he did not make known the motives they alledged to the adverse plenipotentiaries, and in this discussion of a secondary order he shewed all his partiality.

The French plenipotentiaries, after having fulfilled the duty of earnestly, and for the dignity of government insisting upon what reason, custom, and the engagement contracted at Dresden by the plenipotentiary of the mediator of himself, gave them a right to demand, were authorised to propose a mode which would have

satisfied all pretensions. They, in consequence, declared by a note addressed to the mediator, that they consented the mode of negotiating by writing, should be admitted conjointly with that of conferences. This means contributed all, and was most conformable to what was practised in the more important congresses of Nimeguen, Ryswick, Aix-la-Chapelle, &c. where each question had been discussed, either verbally, or by writing, according as the nature of the case required (35.)

The enemies' plenipotentiaries rejected this proposition, without giving themselves the trouble of combating the evident reasons upon which it was founded (36 and 37.)

Several notes were afterwards exchanged on each part (38, 39, and 40.)

On the 10th of August, the Russian and Prussian plenipotentiaries hastened to declare the congress dissolved (41 and 42.) At the same moment, the plenipotentiary of the mediator declared war (43.) His declaration was transmitted by the ambassador from France, in the night between the 10th and 11th of August, at the same hour the Russian and Prussian armies entered the Bohemian territory by roads upon

which for more than a month preparations had been made to receive them.

To this cry of war, France replied by wishes for peace (44.)

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(No. I.)

*Letter from M. de Bubna to M. de Stadion.*

*Dresden, May 18.*

I have the honour to announce to your Excellency, that I arrived at Dresden the day before yesterday, at noon, where I found his Majesty the Emperor of the French.

It is very agreeable for me to convey to the knowledge of your Excellency, that notwithstanding the success which has just accompanied his arms, the Emperor of the French appears to me disposed for peace; and wishes that the plenipotentiaries which the belligerent powers shall judge proper to appoint should assemble as soon as possible at Prague, or any other place between the residences of the belligerent powers. In the conviction that his Majesty will meet similar dispositions on the part of their Majesties the Em-

peror of Russia and the King of Prussia, I hasten to engage you, M. le Comte, to do all in your power to accelerate the departure of the plenipotentiaries for the place of congress.

His Majesty appears to me to partake the opinion of the Allies, and to consider a general peace as the means of really tranquillizing the world: he would therefore, with pleasure, see there a plenipotentiary from England, and one from America. He consents to admit one from the Spanish insurgents, should it be thought possible to incline England to peace. His Majesty also seems equally disposed for a continental peace, and consequently to send plenipotentiaries as well as his Allies, as soon as the disposition of Russia and Prussia shall be known.

The congress once fixed, if the belligerent powers wish to conclude an armistice, or a suspension of arms, his Majesty likewise appears to me disposed to lend himself to it.

Having the honour to inform your Excellency of these dispositions of the Emperor of the French, I think you would do well to interpose with the allied Sovereigns, if they find this armistice to their satisfaction, that the overtures



customary in such cases may be made in consequence, at the French advanced posts.

At the same time, I have the honour to inform your Excellency, that I am going immediately to Vienna for some days, and that I will return without delay to my post.

(Signed) Count BUBNA.

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(No. II.)

*Powers given to the Duke of Vicenza:*

*Dresden, May 18.*

M. le Duke,

Having resolved to employ all means to establish a peace, either general or continental, we have proposed the assembling of a congress, either at Prague or any other place intermediary to the residences of the belligerent powers. We hope this congress will promptly lead to the re-establishment of peace, of which so many nations experience the want. We have, in consequence, determined to conclude an armistice, or suspension of arms, with the Russian and Prussian armies, for all the time the congress shall last.

Wishing to prevent the battle which, by the position the enemy has taken, appears imminent, and to avoid, for humanity's sake, an useless effusion of blood, our intention is, that you proceed to the advanced posts, where you will demand to be admitted to the Emperor Alexander, to make him this proposition, and conclude and sign any military convention, having for its object to suspend hostilities.

It is for this purpose we write you the present letter, to make use of it, if it is demanded of you, and in the form of full powers. Upon which I pray GOD to have you in his holy keeping.

(Signed) NAPOLEON.

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(No. III.)

*Copy of a Letter from Count de Stadion to the Prince of Neufchatel.*

*Head Quarters of their Majesties  
the Emperor of Russia and King  
of Prussia, May 22, 1813.*

Monseigneur,

General Count de Bubna informed me, by a letter of the 18th inst. of the intentions which his Majesty the Emperor of the French had made

known to him, relative to the means of bringing about a negociation for peace: and I hastened to communicate them to the Emperor of Russia and the King of Prussia.

Their Majesties having found, by the opinion which the Emperor Napoleon made known on this subject, that he thinks an armistice may prepare the way to this negociation, they have declared to me they are ready to enter immediately into all the arrangements which this object requires; and to send to the advanced posts, officers furnished with the proper powers.

Count de Bubna, not being at this moment with the Emperor of the French, I have thought it my duty to address myself to your Serene Highness, to make you acquainted with the sentiments of the two Sovereigns, and to beg you to convey them to the knowledge of his Imperial and Royal Majesty.

I should consider myself too happy, if these first words, which I have the good fortune to convey between the powers at war, should quickly be followed by others that might lead to a state of peace, which my august master has so much at heart.

(Signed) Count DE STADION.

## (No. IV.)

*Powers given by General Barclay de Tolly, for  
the Conclusion of an Armistice.*

His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, and his Majesty the King of Prussia, having determined to conclude between their armies, and those of his Majesty the Emperor Napoleon, an armistice, during which the power charged with the mediation for peace, shall make known the propositions which are to serve as a basis for this salutary work, we have in consequence charged and authorised, as we charge and authorise by these presents, their Excellencies, Lieutenant Generals Count de Schouvaloff, and de Kleist, in the name of their Majesties, and in quality of Commander in Chief of the Combined Armies, to negotiate, conclude, and sign, with him or those who shall be appointed for this purpose, on the part of his Majesty the Emperor Napoleon, and furnished with powers, the armistice in question.

We promise, on our word, and in our quality of Commander in Chief, to execute, and cause to be executed, all the articles of the armistice which shall be signed between the said Pleni-

potentiaries. In faith of which we have signed the present full powers, and sealed it with our arms.—At our head quarters, 16th (28th) May, 1813.

(Signed) **BARCLAY DE TOLLY,**  
Commander in Chief of the  
Combined Armies.

[No. 5, is the armistice concluded on the 4th June, which has already appeared in Vol. II. p. 126, of the "Northern Campaigns."]

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(No. VI.)

*Copy of a Note from M. de Bubna.*

*Dresden, June 11, 1813.*

The undersigned received orders to again proceed to his Imperial Majesty of France, to give an account of the new overtures of peace which the Cabinet of Vienna hastened to make to the belligerent powers.

It was with real satisfaction his Majesty the Emperor and Apostolic King was informed by the return of the undersigned to Vienna, of the pacific dispositions evinced by his Majesty the

Emperor Napoleon. The mediation of Austria having been accepted by the courts of Russia and Prussia, his Imperial Majesty of Austria will hasten to convey to the knowledge of his Majesty the Emperor of the French, the basis of the pacification laid down by those powers ; and he has charged the undersigned to express a wish to be in like manner informed of the basis which his Imperial Majesty of France would lay down, as most beneficial to the said allied Courts.

In order not to leave any doubt on the manner in which the Court of Vienna views the object of a continental peace, as connected with a general peace, the undersigned will observe, that the Austrian Cabinet directs all its wishes to obtain by its cares a pacification that will ensure the future relations of all European powers ; but that it believes, under existing circumstances, that it will find the most certain means of obtaining that, by confining its views, for the present, to a continental arrangement, which would facilitate or prepare a maritime peace.

His Imperial Majesty, setting a great value on accelerating, as much as possible, the conclusion of so salutary a work, the undersigned begs his Excellency the Duke of Bassano to have the goodness to convey, as soon as possible, the

present official note to the knowledge of the Emperor of the French, and likewise to enable him to inform his Court of his Imperial Majesty's reply.

(Signed)      COUNT BUBNA.

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(No. VII.)

*Note from the Duke of Bassano to Count Metternich.*

The undersigned, minister for foreign affairs for his Majesty the Emperor and King, has received orders to send the present note to his Excellency Count de Metternich, minister of state, conferences, and foreign affairs to his Majesty the Emperor of Austria.

The treaty of alliance concluded at Paris, on the 24th of March, 1812, stipulates, article 3d, paragraph 2d, the obligation for the two powers to mutually assist each other, in the event that the one or the other should be attacked or threatened. Article 4 fixed the succours stipulated by article 3 at 30,000 men, of whom 24,000 should be infantry and 6000 cavalry. The separate and secret articles signed at the same time

applied the treaty of alliance to the actual existing case of the war between France and Russia.

On the 26th of April last, Count de Metternich transmitted to his Majesty's ambassador, a note, by which he declared, that his Majesty the Emperor of Austria could no longer fulfil the dispositions of articles 2 and 4, comprehended in the secret articles annexed to the treaty of alliance, and considered as not being applicable to the present conjuncture; consequently Austria withdrew the auxiliary assistance stipulated by the said treaty.

His Majesty must have been more sensibly touched with this change, operated at the moment when the campaign was going to open, as the Prince of Schwartzemberg, before leaving Paris, had reiterated to him the assurance that he might depend upon it, that the auxiliary army would not cease being under his orders.

However, his Majesty the Emperor and King received, to render this unexpected determination less painful to him, the assurance at the same time given by Count de Metternich, "that it should not be considered as an abandonment of



the alliance ;" and the declaration made by the Prince of Schwartzenberg, transmitted to the undersigned on the 22d of April, that " nothing was prejudged respecting the basis of the alliance with France ; and that if the Emperor Francis found a word to change in these bases, he would be the first to mention it." This ambassador added, " That they could suspend, by common consent, the restrictions laid down according to the text of the treaty, in regard to the military relations of Austria." Count de Metternich has not since ceased, on his part manifesting to his Majesty's ambassador the intention of the Court of Vienna, in renouncing some of the dispositions of the secret articles, to subscribe to others more suitable to circumstances.

Such was the state of things when M. de Bubna presented himself at Dresden, on the 16th of May, to his Imperial Majesty and King. He gave him to understand, that it was necessary that he, or some other person, should be furnished with full powers to negotiate, conclude, and sign new secret stipulations, without which it would be in vain to attempt to dissemble that the treaty of Paris would be annulled.

Count de Bubna returned to his Majesty's

head quarters on the 30th of May, and affirmed: "That his Court was disposed to pass an act, which, in establishing the treaty of Paris, would contain a reserve upon the stipulations which should not be found applicable to circumstances."

But when the undersigned asked him, whether he was authorized to negotiate such a supplementary convention? he replied, that he had no instructions to that effect. Count de Bubna set out on the 4th instant to return to his Court. He came back to Dresden on the 10th; and upon demanding of him what had been done? he declared himself without authority and without powers.

The question was, however, the more important to be decided, as it was intimately connected with that of the mediation.

His Majesty had told Count de Bubna, that he saw no difficulty in giving instructions and powers to negotiate, conclude, and sign a convention, by which they would treat of the mediation of Austria; but that it was of importance to know, previous to entering on negotiations, if the alliance still existed, because, in that case, Austria guaranteed the integrity of the present,

territory of France, in as far as relates to us, in determined position; whilst, in the contrary case, we do not know in what situation the two powers respectively are. It was not, therefore, a question foreign to the great object of peace, but one that had for its end to determine if the treaty of Paris still existed.

However, his Majesty saw renewed, in the note transmitted on the 11th by Count de Bubna, the offer of the mediation of Austria, without any plenipotentiary appearing on her part, authorized to negotiate, conclude, and sign,

1. A supplementary convention, which established and ensured the existence of the treaty of alliance,

2. A convention relative to the acceptance of the mediation.

A mediation cannot be accepted without determining at the same time, for what end, upon what object, and in what manner it is to be exercised. It would be contrary to what has been practised by all nations, and particularly to the custom of the Cabinet of France, to treat for a mediation otherwise than by a convention discussed and freely consented to.

The undersigned is in consequence charged to demand :—

1st. That the court of Vienna should make known whether the treaty of alliance of Paris is still existing, and continues to connect the two powers ?

2d. And in the event of an affirmative, that she shall give powers to negotiate the new convention, which is to supplant the secret articles of the treaty of Paris, considered by her as not being applicable to the present conjuncture.

3d. That she will charge a person, furnished with instructions and powers, to negotiate, conclude, and sign a convention, relative to the mediation which she has offered.—The undersigned, &c.

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#### No. VIII.

*Note from the Duke de Bassano to Count de Metternich.*

*Dresden, June 15, 1813.*

The undersigned, Minister for foreign affairs,

having received, through M. Count de Buhna, a note, dated the 11th instant, hastened to lay it before his Majesty the Emperor and King. His Majesty has ordered him to give the following reply to it; which the undersigned has the honour of addressing to his Excellency Count de Metternich, minister of state, conferences, and foreign affairs, for his Majesty the Emperor of Austria.

His Majesty the Emperor and King has not ceased to express his wish for peace, both before the recommencement of military operations, and since the events favourable to his arms. He has held no other language in the communications with the Emperor of Austria, and with the agents who have been sent to him.

His wish is for a general peace, because till that shall have been concluded, none of the powers that have maritime interests will be able to enjoy their rights and the advantages to which this peace alone would permit them to hope for. The mission which the Court of Vienna gave M. de Wessenberg at London, and the object of which was, at that time, communicated to the undersigned, was received by his Majesty the Emperor and King, as leading towards a general

peace, Count de Metternich joined to a note, transmitted to his Majesty's ambassador, on the 26th of April, a report, by which M. de Wessenberg announced on the 6th of the same month, that in a few days the English minister would explain himself. From that moment no communication has been made, and we would be in a state of belief, that after three months things were still in the same state, if it did not follow from Count de Bubna's note, that the Court of Vienna had given up the hope she had conceived of a maritime peace.

When his Majesty proposed at Dresden, by the channel of Count de Bubna, the establishment of a congress, where all the parties interested in a general peace should be called, and where bases to reconcile all pretensions would be laid down, he thought it would be proper for the United States of America and the Spanish Insurgents to take part in it, because all the maritime powers had interests to discuss. The intervention of the United States appeared to be the more natural, as England had just refused to negotiate, upon the mediation of Russia, for the arrangement of the differences which had arisen between America and Great Britain.

But his Majesty at the same time made known,

that if Russia and Prussia wished to treat without England, he was equally ready to agree to it. He announced that as soon as the dispositions of the belligerent powers should be known to him in this respect, plenipotentiaries appointed, and the place of their assembling in congress agreed upon, he would send his there.

It is a month since his Majesty thus formally expressed his wish for the opening of a congress. Already have ten days elapsed since the armistice happily suspended the effusion of blood, and no communication has yet made known the dispositions of the belligerent powers.

His Majesty would with regret impute the loss of time so precious, and the slow approaches to an object of so great interest to humanity, to pretensions of which he, however, found indications in the note of M. de Bubna. It would seem, in fine, to result from that note, that the belligerent powers are to treat, and communicate among themselves, through the medium of the Court of Vienna. His Majesty would not hesitate to express his opinion upon that pretension. He cannot treat for peace without negotiating it; he cannot negotiate but in the forms consecrated by the usage of all nations, and by plenipotentiaries who, joined to those of the belligerent

powers, and after the exchange of their full powers, will enter into explanations.

To wish that his Majesty should renounce the right inherent in the independence of Sovereigns, to cause his interests to be discussed by his plenipotentiaries, conformably to rules of which there is no example in history of their ever having been departed from: this would be to raise a pretension which every State preserving the sentiment of its dignity should repel. His Majesty will not consent to it; he has not the right of consenting to it for his allies.

His Majesty, at the time of the negociation of the armistice, already caused it to be declared to Russia and Prussia, through the Duke of Vicenza, that he was ready to treat upon a basis honourable to all parties.

He authorises the undersigned to again insist upon the immediate opening, in a place between the residences of the different belligerent Courts, of a congress for a general peace; and in case England should have refused, or should refuse to adhere to it, for a continental peace; and to make the reiterated declaration, that as soon as his enemies and their allies shall have appointed their plenipotentiaries, and that the place for



their assembling in congress shall have been designated, he will send his thither, and invite all his allies to send theirs.

His Majesty, earnestly persevering in the wish of entering into negotiation, flatters himself that it is not to him can be imputed, either the intention of deferring the peace, or of the delays which have already occurred, to the prejudice of humanity, to the opening of the congress, the only means of arriving at the accomplishment of this salutary work, which is the object of all the wishes of his Majesty, and the aim of all his hopes.—The undersigned, &c.

The Duke of BASSANO.

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(No. IX.)

*Note of the Count de Metternich in Reply to the  
Notes of the 15th June.*

*Gilschen, June 22, 1813.*

The undersigned minister of state and of foreign affairs of his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, has received orders to make the following reply to the note which his Excellency the Minister for foreign affairs of France did him the

honour to address him from Dresden, on the 15th June last.

Austria and France concluded on the 14th March, 1812, an alliance on the same grounds and in the same spirit as that of 1756. This alliance, purely defensive, was founded on the principle of "maintaining the peace of the Continent, and of re-establishing a maritime peace." It therefore rests on the basis most conformable to a sound policy, and its stipulations contain the most perfect reciprocity between the high contracting parties. Any alteration which might be endeavoured to be made in the Act of the Treaty, could only be effected to the detriment of one or other of those principles. The separate and secret articles determined the species of co-operation which Austria was to give, in a war which, unfortunately, was only too easily to be foreseen, and which all the conciliatory efforts made by his Imperial Majesty and Apostolic King, were not able to prevent.

The war, in fine, broke out: nevertheless the Emperor, true to his principles, never ceased, even during the campaign of 1812, which was marked by the greatest efforts of the belligerent powers, and by a loss of men of which history presents but few examples, to direct his attention

to the re-establishment of peace as speedily as possible. His Imperial Majesty, in order to render this wish the more efficacious, seized the moment when, after a first campaign, a sufficient interval presented itself for an explanation with the several powers. He offered, in the month of February last, his mediation to France, Russia, and England; he extended this offer to Prussia from the moment that power appeared as a principal party in the scene of action. The whole, with the exception of England, accepted the mediation of Austria; but nevertheless it was soon but too fully ascertained, that a negotiation solely supported by the good offices of the Court of Vienna, would not be sufficient to re-unite powers separated by a great diversity of interests, and to whom every sacrifice, every effort, must appear weak after those of the year 1812.

The Emperor did not suffer himself to be discouraged. He was not slow in placing himself in a condition to support his pacific words, by organizing respectable forces, and it was with satisfaction that his Imperial Majesty saw by the communications made by the French Ambassador at the Court of Vienna, in the month of April last, that in this respect his opinion was participated by his Majesty the Emperor

Napoleon. The undersigned had orders to declare, in reply to the official note of Count de Narbonne, dated the 21st April, that his Imperial Majesty would elevate his simple intervention into a mediation, and that he would thus appear as a principal party in the scene. Accordingly Austria, not being able to act at the same time as a principal power, and lend a limited succour, the Austrian auxiliary corps received orders no longer to risk the fate of arms on a foreign territory, but to return within the frontiers of the empire.

The Emperor at the same time declared to the French Government, that his mediation should not in any wise prejudice the basis of the alliance with France, as the two high contracting parties might by mutual consent place under a reservation the stipulations of the treaty of the 14th March, 1812, which were not irreconcilable with the attitude commanded by the necessity of the re-establishment of peace: his Imperial Majesty added, that he was ready to consign this reservation in a diplomatic act.

The facts being thus stated in their natural order, it results from them that Austria is far from considering her alliance with France; this alliance, which essentially rests on the principle

of peace, as irreconcilable with her mediation, which only tends to restore repose to Europe.

The Emperor would never have sanctioned an alliance which had not the basis of peace for its object. He would have renounced every engagement which should have opposed itself to its re-establishment.

His Majesty the Emperor of France, besides desiring that the offer and acceptance of the Austrian mediation should be likewise consigned in a diplomatic act, the Emperor of Austria made no difficulty in acquiescing in this demand. His Imperial Majesty in consequence ordered the undersigned to declare to his Excellency M. the Duke de Bassano,

1. That being persuaded that there is nothing contrary in the treaty of the 14th March, 1812, to the mediation of Austria, he authorises the undersigned to agree with the French Government on an express reservation with regard to such of its stipulations as may be affected by it.

2. That he will not in any wise refuse to make a convention relative to the offers and the acceptance of the Austrian mediation.

3. That, finally, the undersigned, is charged and provided with the necessary full powers, to regulate the terms of these two acts, and to sign them.

(The undersigned, &c.  
(Signed) **METTERNICH**

(No. X.)

*From Count Metternich to the Duke of Bassano*

*Gitschin, June 22, 1813.*

The undersigned minister of state and for foreign affairs, has conveyed to the knowledge of the Emperor and King, the note which his Excellency the Duke de Bassano, minister for foreign affairs in France, did him the honour of addressing to him from Dresden on the 15th of this month; and his Imperial Majesty has directed him to reply to it, by the following explanations.

The Emperor caused notification to be made in the month of February last, to the principal belligerent powers, of his offer of interference for the re-establishment of peace. Convinced that without a just political equilibrium, the repose so necessary to Europe could not be completely

secured, and not less convinced that this equilibrium is directly connected with a maritime peace, his Imperial Majesty's wishes necessarily pointed to such a peace. He had the satisfaction of finding his interference accepted by the powers to which he had offered it; England alone declined it.

The progress of events induced Austria to extend her interference to an actual mediation. The Emperor addressed his offers of it to the principal belligerent powers. Nevertheless his Imperial Majesty always deemed it necessary to await the epoch when his mediation would be formally accepted, to make a new attempt with the British government. This step has taken place at this moment.

Immense forces have however approached each other; the armistice is nearly terminated, and armies in presence of each other, to directly oppose the prolongation of a simple armistice for the Emperor to admit the possibility of the immediate assembling of a congress, to which would be called all the powers of Europe, including therein plenipotentiaries from the Regency of Cadiz, and of the United States of America. How is it, in fact, to be supposed that the indispensable preparations, the discussion of the forms

to be given the congress, the arrival of the plenipotentiaries, and the preliminary negotiations on the basis of the pacification, would not draw out into a length, which would render necessary a very different dislocation of the armistice? And how would the possibility be admitted that either of the belligerent parties would yield up without any guarantee, advantages of which it might believe it had an assured pledge, in the actual position of its forces?

In this state of affairs, the Emperor applied himself to reconcile the proceedings in favour of a general pacification, with the actual conjunctures. His Imperial Majesty proposed that there should be negotiated under his mediation, a peace between the principal powers of the continent, which might of itself serve as the basis to a general pacification.

This first peace would place the powers in an attitude which would permit them to await the assembling of a general congress. It would directly lead to a maritime peace, in such a manner that this would be the completion of the continental peace. In fine, there is no doubt, but that this negotiation might be easily terminated before the expiration of the armistice, and as the Castle of Gitschin, in Bohemia, offers itself as being at



once the nearest and most central place between the two great head quarters, his Imperial Majesty does not hesitate in proposing to his Majesty the Emperor Napoleon, to send a negotiator, on his part, to the said Castle of Gitschin. The undersigned has orders to add, that the same proposals have just been addressed to his Majesty the Emperor of Russia, and to his Majesty the King of Prussia.

It will, without doubt, be sufficient to have announced the intent of his invitation, to prevent his Majesty the Emperor of the French from entertaining the least doubt of it in anywise entering into the views of the Emperor of Austria, to confound his mediation, freely accepted by the powers, with formalities which would lead to the exclusion of negotiations, charged to defend directly the interests of the high contending parties. His Imperial Majesty has always shewn himself a too zealous defender of the rights of Sovereigns, and of the principle of the independence of powers, to believe it to be necessary for him to give assurances that he respects both the one and the other, even to their minutest concerns.

The undersigned avails himself of this opportunity of renewing to his Excellency the Duke of Bassano, the assurances of his high consideration

(Signed)

METTERNICH.

(No. XI.)

*Note from the Duke de Bassano, to M. the  
Count de Metternich.*

*Dresden, June 27, 1813.*

The undersigned minister for foreign affairs, has imparted to the knowledge of his Majesty the Emperor and king, the first note, which was yesterday transmitted to him by his Excellency the Count de Metternich, bearing date the 22d of this month. His Majesty the Emperor and King has perceived with satisfaction, that his Majesty the Emperor of Austria persists in the same sentiments and disposition which dictated the stipulations of the treaty of alliance of the 14th of March, 1812.

That his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, desiring an express reservation with regard to such of the conditions of the said treaty which he deems not to be applicable to existing circumstances; and having furnished M. the Count de Metternich with the necessary powers for negotiating a convention to that effect with the French government, his Imperial and Royal Majesty has directed the undersigned to declare, that he

is, in like manner, furnished with full powers to negotiate, conclude and sign the said convention.

The undersigned, &c.

The Duke of BASSANO.

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(No. XII.)

*Note from the Duke of Bassano to the Count de Metternich.*

The undersigned, &c. having received instructions and powers to negotiate, conclude and sign the reservations which his Majesty the Emperor of Austria deems necessary to make to the treaty of alliance of the 14th of March, 1812, and wishing, agreeably to the intentions of his Majesty the Emperor and King, to accelerate this negotiation as much as possible, instantly enters on the subject, and begs his Excellency Count de Metternich to immediately transmit the project of reservations desired by his court.

The treaty of alliance is composed of nine articles. By article 1st, the two high contracting parties engaged to pay the greatest attention to maintaining the good intelligence so happily

established between them, their states, and respective subjects.

His Majesty the Emperor of Austria now undoubtedly remains in the same disposition. Nevertheless, the position of the Austrian army in Bohemia, which keeps its cordon before the French army, and which, contrary to established usage, interdicts the passage to the French officers and agents, although furnished with regular passports, constitutes a change in the relations contrary to the tenor of that article. If this stipulation is to subsist, it will be requisite on both parts, to take, without delay, the necessary measures for preventing every thing that might change the good intelligence, and come to an understanding on the subject of the posting troops on the respective frontiers.

By Art. 2, the two contracting parties guarantee to each other, the integrity of their present territories. His Majesty persists in this guarantee as far as concerns him. The undersigned has the honour to beg of Count de Metternich to know whether Austria equally persists in it, or if the 2d article of the treaty is to be placed among the reservations.

The 3d Article stipulates the obligation taken

by the two contracting parties, of mutually succouring each other, in case that, notwithstanding the good offices employed by one or the other, either of them should be attacked or threatened.

Art. 4, and 5, determine the quality of the succours, and the time when they must be furnished. His Majesty, constant to his principles, considers these stipulations as useful, and in the spirit of the alliance.—The undersigned will, at any time, have the honour of explaining himself on the modification which Austria may wish, as soon as they shall be made known to him.

The 6th and 7th articles relate to the reciprocal guarantee of the integrity of the Ottoman empire, and the principles of neutral navigation.

The undersigned, equally desirous to know the reservations of which Austria considers these two articles are susceptible. With regard to the secret articles, the reservations of which they may be the object, will be a corollary of those which the open articles must be liable to, and on which it is necessary preliminarily to know the views which his Excellency Count de Metternich may have to present.

The undersigned, &c.

(Signed) The Duke of BASSANO.

(No. XIII.)

*Note from the Duke of Bassano to Count de Metternich.*

*Dresden, June 27, 1813.*

The undersigned minister for foreign affairs has laid before his Majesty the Emperor and King, the second note which was yesterday transmitted to him by his Excellency Count de Metternich, dated the 22d instant.

His Majesty the Emperor and King experienced real satisfaction from the explanations contained in that note, in regretting the time which has elapsed since signing the armistice, and which might have been so usefully employed in the work of peace: he is convinced, according to the declaration which has been made known to him of the sentiments with which his Majesty the Emperor Francis is animated for the right of Sovereigns, that these cannot be imputed to Austria.

His Imperial Majesty was equally satisfied in learning, that his Excellency Count de Metternich was clothed with the requisite powers for negotiating a convention, relative to the accept-

ance of the mediation of his Majesty the Emperor of Austria: and he has in consequence ordered the undersigned to declare, that he is in like manner, provided with full power to negotiate, conclude, and sign the said convention.

The undersigned, &c.

(Signed)      The Duke of BASSANO.

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(No. XIV.)

*Note from Count de Metternich to the Duke of Bassano.*

*Dresden, June 28, 1813.*

The undersigned minister of state for foreign affairs of his Majesty the Emperor of Austria has received the two notes which his Excellency the Duke of Bassano did him the honour of addressing to him this morning.

The attitude of mediator undoubtedly can only be conceived in the most complete independence. If the political independence of Austria cannot be effected by the spirit of the alliance of the 14th of March, 1812, an alliance purely defensive, and founded directly on the preservation

of the peace of the continent; and on the desire of the re-establishment of a maritime peace, is not, however, the same with the letter of that treaty.

The undersigned being able to refer to his note of 23d of June, in reply to that of the Duke of Bassano, of the same date, proposes to his Excellency to dispense with, at a moment so important to humanity, all discussions on particular articles of the treaty of the 14th March, 1812, and to place the reservation relative to the said treaty in a declaration common both to Austria and France, similar to that of which the undersigned has herewith the honour to annex a project.

The undersigned avails himself of this opportunity to renew to his Excellency the Duke of Bassano, the assurance of his high consideration.

(Signed)

METTERNICH.

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The title of mediator importing the most entire liberty, and not admitting any obligation which might be found in opposition with the interests of one or other of the parties interested,



their Imperial and Royal Majesties, the Emperor of the French, &c. and the Emperor of Austria, &c. equally animated with a desire to concur by all the means in their power to the most speedy re-establishment of peace, viz. his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, by the offer he has made of his mediation to the belligerent powers, and his Majesty the Emperor of the French, by his acceptance of the mediation of Austria. Their said Imperial Majesties, on the other hand, not wishing, by the act of mediation, in the least manner to prejudice the existence of the alliance established between them by the treaty of the 14th of March, 1812, have mutually agreed to declare, that such stipulations of the said treaty as might affect the impartiality of the mediator, shall be suspended during the whole course of the negotiations, expressly reserving, to cause the said stipulations to be revived, except the modifications, which, by mutual agreement, they may judge necessary to apply to them, after the pacification which, at the actual moment, forms the first object of their Imperial Majesties' care.

(No. XV.)

• *Note from the Count de Metternich to the Duke of Bassano.*

*Dresden, June 29, 1813.*

The undersigned, minister of state for foreign affairs to his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, has received the note his Excellency the Duke of Bassano did him the honour of addressing to him yesterday.

The dispositions of his Majesty the Emperor of the French, King of Italy, as they are found expressed in that note, in favour of opening, in the most speedy manner possible, negotiations, and the desire of the Austrian cabinet to second the work of peace by every means in its power, has determined the undersigned to address to his Excellency the Duke of Bassano, for establishing both the offer of Austria's mediation, and the acceptance of that mediation by France, the annexed official paper, purely and simply stating his Imperial and Royal Apostolic Majesty's offer of mediation.

The undersigned avails himself of this opportunity of renewing, to his Excellency the Duke

of Bassano, the assurance of his high consideration.

(Signed) COUNT DE METTERNICH.

[Here follows another note, from the same, and of the same date, announcing, that the Emperor of Russia and King of Prussia had accepted the mediation of Austria, and requesting the Duke of Bassano to inform him of the French Emperor's determination.]

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(No. XVI.)

*Note from the Minister of Foreign Affairs, in Reply to Count de Metternich's Note of the 28th June, on the Subject of the Alliance.*

*Dresden, June 20, 1813.*

The undersigned, minister for foreign affairs, has laid before his Majesty the Emperor and King, Count de Metternich's note of yesterday.

The proposal contained in that note tends to place in reservation, not only some articles of the treaty of alliance of the 14th of March, 1812, but the whole of the treaty itself, which appears in opposition to the declaration made up

to this day by the Court of Vienna, and even to the dispositions expressed by Count de Metternich in his preceding note of the 22d of this month. It is not in the power of any one to cause to exist what does not exist: thus it could not be said the treaty of alliance existed, if all its stipulations were placed in the reservations.

His Majesty thought that these reservations, which were to be the object of the convention to be concluded, merely referred to some articles which were deemed by the Court of Vienna inapplicable to present circumstances; but as they must embrace, as the note of the Count de Metternich authorises to believe, the very letter of the whole treaty, his Majesty can only consider the wish of the Court of Vienna as equivalent to a renunciation of the alliance.

The treaty of the 14th March, 1812, had been concluded in the opinion of its being favourable to all parties. His Majesty, who does not wish to render his alliance expensive to his friends, makes no difficulty in renouncing that which united him to Austria, if such be the wish of his Majesty the Emperor Francis. This change in the situation between France and Austria will make no alteration in the friendship and good

understanding resulting from the last treaties,  
which established peace between the two powers.

The undersigned, &c.

(Signed)

The Duke of BASSANO.

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(No. XVII.)

*Note from the Minister for Foreign Affairs, in  
Reply to that of M. de Metternich, of the  
29th June, on the Subject of the Mediation,  
with a Project for a Convention.*

*Dresden, June 29, 1813.*

The undersigned, minister for foreign affairs, has laid before his Majesty the Emperor and King, the note of his Excellency the Count de Metternich, of this day's date, relative to the offer which the Court of Vienna made of its mediation.

His Imperial and Royal Majesty has charged him, in reply to the said note, to present the annexed projet for articles as a simple sketch, which may serve in the negotiation for which the

Count de Metternich and the undersigned are respectively furnished with full powers.

Count de Metternich will perceive, by the tendency of the projected dispositions, his Majesty's desire to replace on its basis Europe, shaken by thirty years of war, and to substitute for separate powers a general peace, negociated, not in the Cabinet, but before all Europe, and in the face of all her nations.

It was in this manner they acted at Munster, at Nimeguen, at Ryswick, and at Utrecht; the powers were not arrested by the complication of interests, and the delays inseparable from a general negociation; and even at Osnabruck, where they had, besides, to conciliate religious ideas, which are always so delicate, and from their nature so very little susceptible of modification, all difficulties were surmounted by time and perseverance. Why, then, when they are certainly of less consideration, should we now despair of attaining complete success?

His Majesty prefers Vienna or Prague for the place of congress, as being large cities, where all the negociators might be assembled.

He refers to the mediator for adopting such measures of policy as may enable the plenipotentiaries to enjoy the privileges and honours which belong to their character, and to the dignity of the Sovereigns whom they represent.

The undersigned, &c.

(Signed) The Duke of BASSANO.

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*Sketch of a Convention for the Offer and Acceptance of the Mediation of his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, enclosed in Note, No. 17.*

*Dresden, June 29, 1813.*

**Art. 1.** His Majesty the Emperor of Austria offers his mediation for a general peace.

2. His said Majesty, in offering his mediation, does not intend to present himself as an arbitrator, but as a mediator, animated by the most perfect disinterestedness, and the most complete impartiality, aiming solely at conciliating the differences, and of facilitating, in so far as shall depend on him, a general pacification.

3. This mediation shall extend to England,

to the United States, to the King of Spain, to the Regency of Cadiz, and to all the powers of the two belligerent masses. His Majesty the Emperor of Austria will propose to them the city of Vienna, or that of Prague, for the place of congress.

4. His Majesty the Emperor of France accepts for himself and his allies, the mediation of his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, such as it is proposed to him by the foregoing articles. He likewise accepts for the place of congress, either of the cities of Vienna or Prague, whichever may best suit the convenience of the other belligerent powers.

5. The French, Russian, and Prussian plenipotentiaries shall assemble in the said city, within the first five days of July, under the mediation of Austria, for the purpose of commencing negotiations, and either by preliminaries, or by a convention, or by a particular treaty of peace, put a stop to the effusion of blood which afflicts the Continent.

6. If, on the 20th of July, one of the two belligerent powers should denounce the armistice conformably to the convention of the 4th of



June, the negotiations of the congress shall not thereby suffer any interruption.

7. This present convention, &c.

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(No. XVIII.)

*Project of Articles for Application of the Mediation of Austria to a general Peace, agreed to with M. de Metternich, and taken by him.*

*Dresden, June 30, 1813.*

Their Majesties, &c. having come to an understanding, by the convention of the 30th of June, relative to the negotiations to be entered into, under the mediation of Austria, for a continental peace, and judging it proper likewise to agree on what regards the negotiations for a general peace, have nominated, &c. &c.

Art. 1. His Majesty the Emperor of Austria makes the offer of his mediation to all the belligerent powers, for assembling a congress of general pacification, which shall fix on a solid basis the interests of all the powers of Europe,

which have been shaken for twenty-five years past.

**Art. 2.** For this purpose, a general congress shall be convoked, to meet either in the city of Prague or Vienna, at the choice of the parties concerned.

**Art. 3.** The United States of America shall be invited to send plenipotentiaries thither.

For Spain, there shall be admitted plenipotentiaries from the King of Spain, and from the Regency of Cadiz.

**Art. 4.** Every plenipotentiary of such belligerent power that has accepted the mediation of his Majesty the Emperor of Austria towards a general peace, who shall present himself at the place of negotiation, shall be admitted.

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(No. XIX.)

His Majesty the Emperor of the French, King of Italy, &c. his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, &c. being animated with an equal desire to come to a re-establishment of peace, and his said

**Majesty the Emperor of Austria having for this purpose offered his mediation towards a general peace, or, in default of that, towards a continental peace, and his Majesty the Emperor of the French having manifested an intention of accepting the said mediation, has thought proper to confirm the said acceptance by a convention; in consequence whereof their said Majesties have nominated as their plenipotentiaries, to wit—his Majesty the Emperor of the French, M. Hugues Bernard, Count Maret, Duke of Bassano, &c. and his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, M. the Count Clement Weneislaus, of Metternich, Winneburg-Ochsenhausen, Knight of the Golden Fleece, &c. his minister for foreign affairs, who, after having exchanged their respective full powers, have agreed on the following articles :**

**Art. 1. His Majesty the Emperor of Austria offers his mediation towards a general or continental peace.**

**Art. 2. His Majesty the Emperor of the French accepts of the said mediation.**

**Art. 3. The French, Russian, and Prussian plenipotentiaries shall meet in the city of Prague before the 5th of July.**

**Art. 4.** Considering the insufficiency of the time remaining to run till the 20th of July, being the term for the expiration of the armistice by the convention, signed at Pleiswithz on the 4th of June, his Majesty the Emperor of the French engages not to denounce the said armistice before the 10th of August; and his Majesty the Emperor of Austria reserves to himself to obtain the concurrence of Russia and Prussia to the same engagement.

**Art. 5.** The present convention shall not be made public: it shall be ratified, and the ratifications exchanged at Dresden within the term of four days.

**Done and signed at Dresden, 30th June, 1813.**

(Signed)

(L.S.) The Duke of BASSANO.

(L.S.) The Count of METTERNICH.

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## No. XX.

*Copy of a Letter from Count de Metternich to  
the Minister for Foreign Affairs.**Gitschin, 3d July, 1813.*

Monsieur the Duke,

I shall send to M. the Count de Bubna two letters, written by his Imperial and Royal Austrian Majesty, in his own hand-writing : the one of which is in reply to that of his Majesty the Emperor of the French, bearing date the 10th of June ; and the other carries the ratification of the convention of the 10th.

This officer will address himself to your Excellency, for the presentation of the said letters, and for forwarding them to their high destination, according as your Excellency may find most convenient. His Majesty makes it a pleasure to accede to the Emperor's desire, relative to the place of negociation ; and he has immediately given orders for having every thing prepared at Prague, for the reception of the negociators. New dispositions requiring always several days, the meeting can scarcely take place before the 8th of this month. I have hastened to apprise you the more of this circumstance, in order that

the simultaneous arrival of the negociators may take place in the course of the 8th of July. I address the same information to the ministers of his Majesty the Emperor of Russia, and to those of his Majesty the King of Prussia.—I pray your Excellency to accept, &c.

(Signed) METTERNICH.

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(No. XXI.)

*Copy of a Letter from the same to the same.*

*Brandeis, July 3d, 1813.*

By my letter of the 3d of this month, I had the honour of informing your Excellency of the invitation which we addressed to the ministers of his Majesty the Emperor of Russia, and to those of his Majesty the King of Prussia, for the meeting of the respective negociators at Prague. The replies of Count Nesselrode, Secretary of State, and of the Chancellor Baron Hardenberg, dated the 6th, have been received here this morning, by couriers. They both state, that the term of eight days, which we had proposed, being too near for this interval to suffice for the time requisite for the preparations and instructions, and

for the journey, the Russian and Prussian negotiators will, without fail, repair to Prague in the course of the 12th. I presume, after what your Excellency has done me the honour to tell me, that this enlargement of the time of meeting will be equally convenient to you. The arrangements on our side are ready for the convenient reception of the negotiators at the place of their meeting.—Accept, &c.

(Signed) METTERNICH.

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(No. XXII.)

*Extract from a Letter of the Minister for Foreign Affairs to Count de Metternich.*

*Dresden, July 9, 1813.*

The Count de Narbonne had just set out to repair to you, in order to obtain intelligence concerning the nomination of the Russian and Prussian plenipotentiaries, the opening of the negotiations, and the prolongation of the armistice, when Count de Bubna transmitted to me the letter which your Excellency did me the honour to write to me yesterday.

Our plenipotentiaries will, without difficulty, be at Prague on the 12th, though those of Russia were not known to us. That matter is of little importance; but it is not the same with what regards the prolongation of the armistice. It is indispensable that we should know to what we are to hold ourselves, and we expect with impatience the return of the courier charged with that letter.

His Majesty had thought, that agreeably to the 4th article of the convention of the 30th of June, his Majesty the Emperor of Austria had reserved to cause Russia and Prussia to agree to the engagement which we had taken. You will charge yourself with this object, and make yourself acquainted with the arrangements adopted. The prolongation of the armistice ought to have been published in the towns and to the army. I beg your Excellency will inform me what you have done, and what you have learned on this subject. On our part, the Prince of Neufchatel writes to our Commissioners at Neumarkt, the letter which I am about to communicate to Count Bubna.

We should have taken this step immediately, if we had not believed that you were charged to do it.—Having undertaken it, it is of importance



to us to know, whether our enemies have done so likewise. If they have not, and if they should refuse to take the same engagement with us, the position which we would have wished to clear up will find itself again embarrassed. His Majesty has cause to regret that you have not been more explicit, if from thence a fresh loss of time should ensue.

The Emperor desires that Count de Narbonne should remain at Prague, or go to Brandeis, if his Majesty the Emperor of Austria would be inclined to permit him to be at the same place with himself. His Majesty wishes, in order to accelerate the business, that his ambassador should be in readiness to receive the communications which you may wish to make to him.

(Signed) THE DUKE OF BASSANO.

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(No. XXIII.)

*Copy of a Letter from the Count de Metternich  
to the Count de Bubna.*

*Prague, July 12, 1813.*

At the moment that I was going to send off

the present courier, I received the note which the Duke of Bassano addressed to me on the 9th of July.

That I may not detain the present messenger, I reserve having the honour of answering him officially till to-morrow. I request you, however, to inform him particularly, that according to a courier who arrived to me last night from Reichenbach, the Courts of Russia and Prussia have officially recognized the term of the 10th August next as the term of negotiation, and that they do not on their part denounce the armistice before that time. It is evident that to treat for a prolongation of the armistice, according to military forms, belongs to the commission at Neumarkt.

I have with pleasure observed, by what the Duke of Bassano has informed me, that orders have already been transmitted to the French Commissioners, to communicate with the Commissioners of the enemy. I beg you to discharge this commission immediately, in conjunction with the Duke of Bassano, and to receive the assurance of my highest consideration.

(Signed) METTERNICH.

(No. XXIV.)

*Copy of a Letter from the Count de Metternich  
to the Minister for Foreign Affairs.*

*Prague, July 12, 1813.*

The Count de Narbonne yesterday transmitted me the letter which you did me the honour of addressing to me on the 9th instant. Occupied in expediting a courier to the Count de Bubna, I have charged that General to inform your Excellency, that we have just been officially informed by the Courts of Russia and Prussia, that they have admitted the 10th of August as the term of the negociation.

The Privy Counsellor D'Anstaedt arrived here this morning, as has likewise Baron D'Humbolt, this afternoon. It is with regret that we still find ourselves deprived of the presence of the person charged by his Majesty the Emperor of the French to assist in the negociations, and I flatter myself with his arriving very shortly.

The Emperor being at Brandeis in the strictest incognito, the abode of the diplomatic corps at this place, which offers no other convenience than the castle, occupied by his Imperial Majesty,

cannot take place. We shall be much gratified in retaining the Count de Narbonne here, and I shall be careful to continue with him the most intimate connection.

I beg you, &c.

(Signed) METTERNICH.

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(No. XXV.)

*Copy of a Letter from the Minister for Foreign Affairs to Count de Metternich.*

*Dresden, July 16, 1813.*

I have received the letter which your Excellency did me the honour to transmit to me on the 12th inst. I had proposed to myself to answer it yesterday, but dispatches just arrived to us from Neumarkt, and which I hastened to communicate to Count de Bubna, caused me to defer it till to-day. Fresh letters from the same Commissioners arriving at that instant, announcing to us, that Messrs. de Schouvaloff and Kreusemark have arrived from the General in Chief of the combined armies, with the necessary powers for concluding the convention, relative to the prolongation of the armistice; it is therefore probable

that this important business may be terminated to-morrow.

His Majesty having learnt that his Majesty the Emperor of Austria would have found it agreeable that the conduct of Russia in the nomination of her plenipotentiary should not be imitated by us ; and knowing besides, according to what you did me the honour to write me on the 8th, that the proposal of nominating the Duke of Vicenza had been agreed to by your august master, it would the more operate in fixing the Emperor's choice. I shall this evening present for his signature the powers which are to be transmitted to the Duke of Vicenza and the Count of Narbonne for the negotiations of the peace.

The Duke of Vicenza, having provisionally united his office of Grand Equerry to that of Grand Marshal of the Palace, the arrangements which must be made previous to his setting out, require that he should still remain here. His departure will not, however, be long deferred.

Accept, &c.

(Signed) The Duke of BASSANO.

(No. XXVI.)

*Copy of a Letter from Count de Metternich,  
to his Excellency the Minister for Foreign  
Affairs.*

*Prague, July 16, 1813.*

Desirous of accelerating, by every means in our power, the most speedy meeting of the negociators at Prague, I hasten to request your Excellency to lay before his Majesty the Emperor of the French the official declarations of the 29th of June (11th July) and 11th of this present July, which I have just received by a courier, dispatched from Trachenberg, which bring, on the part of his Imperial Majesty of all the Russias, through the medium of his Excellency the secretary of state, Count Nesselrodé, and on the part of his Majesty the King of Prussia, by his Excellency the Chancellor Baron de Hardenberg, the most formal acceptance of the prolongation of the armistice till the 10th of August next.

The previous declaration which Lieutenant-General Count de Bubna was charged to transmit on this subject to your Excellency, therefore, receives by the official note which I had

the honour of addressing to your Excellency on the 12th instant, as well as by the present communication, the most authentic confirmation of the entire execution, according to both its sense and letter, of the engagements entered into by us, agreeably to the fourth article of the convention of the 30th of June last.

(Signed) METTERNICH.

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*Letter from the Count de Nesselrode to the Count de Stadion.*

*Trachenberg, June 29, (July 11,) 1813.*

On my return from Ratisborsitz, I did not fail to submit to his Majesty the Emperor, the proposal which your Excellency was charged to make to us, relative to the prolongation of the armistice to the 10th of August.

Faithful to his engagements of not coming to any determination on subjects of such great importance, without having first consulted on them with his allies, his Imperial Majesty deferred replying to them, as he was about to have an interview with the Prince Royal of Sweden, which was fixed for the 9th of this month. His Royal

Highness arrived the day before yesterday at Trachenberg. His Imperial Majesty has had the satisfaction of finding the disposition of that Prince entirely coinciding with his own, with regard to Austria.

In consequence, the two allied Courts have determined, with his concurrence, to give his Majesty the Emperor of the French a fresh proof of amity and confidence, by prolonging, even to the detriment of their military interests, the armistice till the 10th of August. M. M. de Anstaedt and de Humboldt will this day receive orders to regulate every thing relative to this prolongation, under the mediation of our Court.

I have the honour, &c.

(Signed) Count de NESSELRODE.

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*Letter from Baron de Hardenberg to the Count de Stadion.*

*Trachenberg, July 21, 1813.*

On my return from Ratisborsitz, I lost no time in laying before the King my master the proposals which your Excellency has been charged



to make to us, concerning the prolongation of the armistice until the 10th of August. His Majesty deferred replying thereto, till he had conferred on them with his Royal Highness the Prince Royal of Sweden, with whom he was to have an interview at Trachenberg on the 9th, and with the English ministers.

In concert with the two allied Courts, he is happy in giving his Majesty the Emperor of Austria a new proof of friendship and confidence in prolonging the armistice to the 10th August, of which M. de Humboldt will in consequence be informed.

I beg your Excellency, &c.

(Signed) HARDENBERG.

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(No. XXVII.)

*Copy of a Letter from the French Commissioners  
at Neumarkt, to the Russian and Prussian  
Commissioners.*

*Neumarkt, July 11, 1813,  
Half after two in the Morning.*

Gentlemen,

We have the honour to inform you, that his Highness the Prince Vice-constable and Major-general informs us, that his Majesty the Emperor of Austria having offered his mediation, and the opening of the negotiations at Prague on the 12th instant, and the prolongation of the armistice until the 10th of August, in order that there may be an interval of forty days between the commencement of their negotiations and their conclusion, his Majesty the Emperor and King has acceded to this proposal: we are therefore authorised, Gentlemen, to propose that a convention shall be signed between you and us, relative to the prolongation of the armistice till the 10th of August.

Accept, Gentlemen, &c.

(Signed) FLAHAULT,  
DUMOUSTIER.

(No. XXVIII.)

*Copy of the Answer of M. M. the Commissioners  
Counts de Schouvaloff and Krusemarck, to the  
Letter of the French Commissioners.*

*Neumarkt, July 11, 1813.*

Gentlemen,

We received the letter which you did us the honour of addressing to us this day, at two o'clock in the afternoon. Not having any orders or authorization whatsoever relative to the important object of which you give us information, we must confine ourselves to assuring you, that we shall hasten, without loss of time, to transmit your letter to his Excellency the General-in-chief.

Accept, &c.

(Signed) The Counts SCHOUVALOFF  
And KREUSEMARK.

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(No. XXIX.)

*Extract of a Letter from Messrs. the Generals  
Dumoustier and Flahault, to his Highness  
the Prince Vice-constable and Major-general.*

*Neumarkt, July 17, 1813.*

Monseigneur,

We have the honour of transmitting you the copy of a letter which the General-in-chief of the combined armies has written to the Russian and Prussian Generals. Your Highness will thereby perceive, that the General-in-chief does not admit of the prolongation of the armistice until the 10th of August.

Accept, my Lord, &c.

(Signed)

DUMOUSTIER.

FLAHAULT.

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*Extract from the Answer of the General-in-chief  
of the combined Armies to the Russian and  
Prussian Commissioners.*

*Reichenbach, 4 (16) July, 1813.*

Gentlemen,

I had the honour of receiving your letter, bearing date the 3d (15th) of this month, as well as the projet of a convention which was thereto annexed.

I see that two difficulties will prevent the conclusion of the latter.

The first is that concerning the day on which hostilities should recommence. Having received very positive orders on this head from the Emperor, previous to his departure from the army, I cannot exactly conform myself to the proposal.

We cannot consent to enlarge the term to the 10th of August (new style), for recommencing hostilities, if the preliminaries of peace should not be signed by that time. The two modes of settling what relates to that point, are either to stipulate, as is pointed out in Art. 1 of your projet, that no mention shall be made of a denunciation; or to add, that it shall be neces-

sary to denounce the armistice on the 4th of August (new style), to be able to commence hostilities on the 11th of August (new style); that is to say, on the moment after midnight between the 10th and 11th, the armistice shall have ceased, and it shall be allowable again to act hostilely. I am able to make no change in this, if it were my wish: in consequence, it is useless to revert any more to this point.

The second difficulty concerns the officers to be sent to places occupied by the French troops, &c.

(Signed)

The General-in-chief BARCLAY DE TOLLY.

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(No. XXX.)

*Extract of a Letter from the Commissioners Dumoustier and Flahault, to his Serene Highness the Major-general.*

*Neumarkt, July 26, 1813.*

Monseigneur,  
We have the honour to transmit to you the

supplementary treaty, relative to the prolongation of the armistice to the 10th of August.

Accept, &c.

(Signed)

The Gens.-Com. DUMOUSTIER  
FLAHAULT.

[Here follows the supplementary treaty.]

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(No. XXXI.)

*Copy of a Letter from Count Metternich to the  
Duke of Bassano.*

*Prague, July 22, 1813.*

M. le Duc,

Count de Narbonne has communicated to me the dispatch which your Excellency addressed to him on the 19th instant, as well as the documents annexed to it, concerning the discussions which have taken place at Neumarkt, relative to the armistice.

I have given an account to the Emperor of

the new delay the arrival of the Duke of Vicenza has experienced. It is by express orders from his Majesty that I made directly to your Excellency, to beg of you to convey to the knowledge of his Majesty the Emperor of the French, the painful impression which this delay has produced upon him.

The Emperor, in addressing the offer of his mediation to the belligerent powers, was not alone influenced by the desire of peace; he was equally impelled to it by the necessity of causing, as soon as possible, those expences to cease, which frequently, even more than war itself, bear upon nations, during that intermediary state which is neither war nor peace.

His Imperial Majesty did not demand the prolongation of the armistice of Pleiswitz. He, however, did not hesitate to employ his good offices to induce the allied powers to admit an additional term of twenty days, to be added to the presumed term of the negotiations, which, considering the distances of the respective head quarters, and the conferences necessary to make these same powers agree to the prolongation of the armistice, could scarcely be opened before the 12th of July.



The engagement which, by Article 4 of the convention of the 30th of June last, his Majesty the Emperor of the French took to the mediating power, not to denounce previous to the 10th of August, the existing armistice, was transmitted by us to the allied powers. Their Majesties the Emperor of all the Russias, and the King of Prussia, acceded to the proposal of Austria; and we did not delay conveying to his Majesty the Emperor of the French, the official confirmation of their formal engagement on this subject. What could remain to be wished by the belligerent powers, to enter into a negotiation at Prague? By what other more legal means could the engagement of France, and the counter-engagement of the allies, not to denounce the armistice before the 10th of August, have been rendered obligatory on one side or the other? What further assurance could France have expected regarding the determination of the allied powers? What more certain guarantee could she, in fine, have received of an entire and perfectly reciprocal sincerity up to the time stipulated? Orders were, however, expedited to the French head quarters, to the Commissioners at Neumarkt. A new discussion took place, in this manner, by the side of the most formal guarantees. This fact was somewhat surprising;

but we were far from suspecting it would occasion delays the most important to the cause of peace. How foresee the possibility that the plenipotentiaries of the mediating power, and those of the allied powers, assembled at Prague, on the 12th of July, the day agreed upon for the arrival of plenipotentiaries from both parties, should be still there on the 22d of the month, not only without the French plenipotentiary being there, but even in the most complete uncertainty respecting the time of his arrival?

An official note which Baron d'Anstaedt has just addressed to me, leaves me in no doubt, that at Neumarkt the differences which had arisen between the Commissioners will be settled there. Ten precious days have not, however, been the less lost to the negotiations at Prague: they cannot be laid, either to the charge of the mediating power, which has fulfilled to the utmost extent the engagements which she had contracted with France; or the allies, who in diplomatic forms have accepted the prolongation of the armistice, and whose negociators arrived here on the day agreed upon.

The meeting of the respective plenipotentiaries had no doubt been sufficient, not to leave discussions to be entered into elsewhere, upon

questions before determined between the Cabinets.

It remains for me to request your Excellency to let me know, as soon as possible, the time when the French plenipotentiaries will repair hither; his Imperial Majesty earnestly desiring that no new incidents may be assigned as a reason for a loss of time which is irreparable.

(Signed) METTERNICH.

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(No. XXXII.)

*Copy of a Letter from the Duke of Bassano to  
Count Metternich.*

*Dresden, July 24, in the Evening.*

General de Bubna has just transmitted to me your Excellency's letter, dated the 22d of this month. Having on the same day sent M. de Narbonne his powers and instructions, I had before-hand satisfied the request which you made to me in that letter. It is therefore without object, and I have not had occasion to lay it before his Majesty.

With regard to the details into which you have

thought proper to enter, I shall confine my reply to reminding you of the facts of the notice hereto annexed. I have, &c.

(Signed) The Duke de BASSANO.

[To this letter is annexed references to various notes, letters, and dispatches, according to their date, which have been given at length in the course of this correspondence.]

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*Note from the Count de Metternich to the Plenipotentiaries of France.*

*Prague, July 29, 1813.*

The undersigned minister of state, and for foreign affairs, to his Imperial and Royal Apostolic Majesty, desiring to see the negotiations which should conduce to the pacification of the belligerent powers opened with as little delay as possible, between this time and the near approaching term of the armistice, has the honour of addressing himself to their Excellencies Messrs. the Duke de Vicenza and Count de Narbonne, plenipotentiaries from his Majesty the Emperor of the French and King of Italy, by inviting them to concert with him on the mode to be adopted for the negotiation, only two present themselves:

that of conferences, or that of transactions by writing.

The first, where the negotiators, by assembling in regular sittings, retard the conclusion long beyond the necessary time, by the embarrassment of etiquette, by the delay inseparable to verbal discussions, by the drawing up and comparing of the *proces verbales*, and other difficulties; the other, that which was followed at the congress of Teschen, according to which, each of the belligerent courts addressed its projets and proposals, in form of notes, to the mediating power, who communicated them to the adverse power, and in the same manner and form transmitted the replies to such projets and proposals, by which all these inconveniences were avoided.

The annexed copy in extract will shew their Excellencies, the Duke de Vicenza and the Count de Narbonne, the method which was observed on that occasion.

Without prejudging the instructions which their Excellencies the plenipotentiaries of France may have received on this subject, to which Austria has already drawn the attention of that Court, the undersigned has the honour, on his part, to propose this method, for the double motive of the

advantages above described, and the brevity of the time fixed for the duration of the negociations.

The mediating Court finds itself more especially inclined to prefer this abridged method, from the consideration that the two high powers now actually in negociation, are the same whose plenipotentiaries met at the congress of Teschen, and she flatters herself that she sees, in the happy issue of the transactions at that place, the pledge of a satisfactory result from the present.

The undersigned eagerly embraces this first opportunity of offering their Excellencies the Duke of Vicenza and Count de Narbonne the assurances of his high consideration.

(Signed)      The Count de METTERNICH.

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*Forms observed in the Negociations of peace at the Congress of Teschen, in 1779.*

The instructions of the plenipotentiaries of the belligerent powers, as known to the mediating ministers, directed to treat for peace, without any appearance of congress, without any formality or

etiquette whatever, and solely to abide by the ordinary proceedings and usages of society.

At the moment of the meeting, the envoys legitimated themselves with the mediator, and the mediator's minister legitimated himself to them.

The plenipotentiaries of the belligerent powers, from that time, addressed their projects of peace to the mediator, and through his intervention received the answer.

The plenipotentiaries did not, during the whole duration of the congress, hold a single general conference; but they, nevertheless, met every day among themselves.

It was not till the day of signing the treaty of peace, that the plenipotentiaries of the belligerent powers assembled for the first and last time, in a general sitting with the mediators, to exchange their respective full powers, with the signed treaties.

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(No. XXXIV.)

*Note from Count de Metternich to the French Plenipotentiaries.**Prague, July 31, 1813.*

The undersigned minister of state and for foreign affairs to his Imperial and Royal Apostolic Majesty's plenipotentiary from the mediating Court, has received the reply which their Excellencies the Duke de Vicenza and the Count de Narbonne, plenipotentiaries from his Majesty the Emperor of the French, and King of Italy, have transmitted to the note which he had the honour of addressing to them on the 29th, inviting them to concert with him on the mode to be adopted for the negotiations.

He has transmitted this reply to the plenipotentiaries of Russia and Prussia, and he has the honour to send annexed, the copy of that of those plenipotentiaries to their Excellencies the Duke de Vicenza, and the Count de Narbonne.

The undersigned regrets the delay which will result to the progress of the negotiation, from the



obligation which their Excellencies have thought they were under to submit to their Courts a matter of form on which he had hoped they would themselves have been able to decide, in course of the anterior conferences in like manner with Messrs. the plenipotentiars of Russia and Prussia.

It being always essential to lose no time remaining for the negotiation after the arrival of the orders, which their Excellencies expect from their Courts, and to be able immediately after to proceed on business, the undersigned has the honour to invite them, in the interval, to proceed to the exchange of their full powers, and to inform them that he shall address the same invitation to the plenipotentiaries of Russia and Prussia.

He hastens on this occasion to offer to their Excellencies the Duke de Vicenza and the Count de Narbonne the renewed assurances of his high consideration.

(Signed) The Count de METTERNICH.

[Here, follow two notes, one from M. D'Anstaedt, the other from M. de Humbolt to Count de Metternich, accepting the method of carrying

on the conferences by writing, as the best adapted for saving time, and conducting the negotiations to a happy termination.]

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*Note from the French Plenipotentiaries to the  
Count de Metternich.*

*Prague, August 6, 1813.*

The undersigned plenipotentiaries from his Majesty the Emperor and King have the honour to reply to the notes which have been transmitted by the Count de Metternich, minister of state and for foreign affairs to his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, plenipotentiary of the mediating power.

The convention of the 30th June, by which France accepted the mediation of Austria, was signed after the two following points had been agreed upon :

1. That the mediator would be impartial; that he had not, nor would not, conclude any convention, even eventual, with a belligerent power, during the whole time the negotiation should last.

2. That the mediator did not present himself as an arbitrator, but as a conciliator to arrange differences and reconcile parties.

The form of the negotiations was, at the same time, the object of an explanation between Count de Bubna and the Duke of Bassano. It was thought right to understand each other beforehand on this subject, because, from the negotiation of the armistice of the 4th of June, Russia had shewn her intentions, and given it to be understood, that she wished to open negotiations, not with the object of peace, but with the view of compromising Austria, and extending the misfortunes of war. The form of conferences was fixed.

The undersigned cannot but express their astonishment and their regret, that although they have for some days been at Prague, they have not yet seen the Russian and Prussian ministers, and that the conferences have not even been opened by the exchange of the respective powers; and in fact, that time so precious has been employed to discuss ideas equally unexpected, as incompatible with the assembling of a congress, as they tend to establish that the plenipotentiaries must negotiate without knowing each other,

without seeing each other, and without speaking to each other.

The question proposed by the plenipotentiary of the mediator, in his note of the 29th of July, when he invited the undersigned to concert with him upon the mode to be adopted for the negotiation, whether that by conferences or writing was previously determined by explanations which accompanied the convention of the 30th June. However willing, as far as depends on them, to remove all difficulties, and conclude pretensions even the least founded, the undersigned proposed to the plenipotentiary of the mediator, to exclude neither modes of negotiations, and to adopt them both conjointly.

For this purpose they would treat in regular conferences, which should take place once or twice a day, either by notes transmitted while sitting, or by verbal communications, which should or should not be inserted in the protocol, according to the demand or requisition of the respective plenipotentiaries. By this means the usages of all times would be followed, and if the Russian plenipotentiary persisted in wishing to negotiate for peace without speaking, he would be at liberty to do so, and could by notes make known the intentions of his Court.

The undersigned flatter themselves that their proposal will conciliate all parties, and that the opening of the conferences will be no longer delayed.

(Signed) CAULAINCOURT, Duke de Vicenza.  
L. NARBONNE.

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*Note from M. de Metternich to the French  
Plenipotentiaries.*

*Prague, August 8, 1813.*

The undersigned minister of state and for foreign affairs of his Imperial Majesty and Apostolic King, plenipotentiary from the mediating power, immediately upon the reception of the note which their Excellencies the Duke de Vicenza and the Count de Narbonne, plenipotentiaries of his Majesty the Emperor of the French and King of Italy, did him the honour of addressing to him on the 6th of this month, made a communication of that document to the plenipotentiaries of Russia and Prussia. He has just received from them their replies, bearing date the 7th, of which he has likewise the honour herewith to subjoin a copy for the information of their Excellencies the French plenipotentiaries. The

undersigned hastens to renew to their Excellencies the assurances of his high consideration.

(Signed) The Count de METTERNICH.

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*Note from M. D'Anstaedt to his Excellency Count de Metternich.*

*Prague, the 26th July (7th August,) 1813.*

The undersigned has received, with the note of yesterday, the copy of the document transmitted by the French plenipotentiaries to the mediating plenipotentiary, of which he wished to give him a communication, conformable to the impartial and open procedure which he has constantly followed.

There is a dignity in affairs, and in the discussion of great interests, from which it is not permitted to depart, whatever might be the provocation.

Russia knows what she owes to herself, and the undersigned will not here dwell upon either the false assertions, or the form of the French paper, each paragraph of which is either an ac-

cusation against the mediatory power, or an insult to Russia—a contradiction or a subterfuge. Nevertheless, Europe ought to know from whence the obstacles proceeded which have prevented the accomplishment of so salutary a work as that which should have taken place at Prague.

It is upon this point exclusively that the undersigned demands the publication of facts; a publication which equally interests the dignity of mediator which his Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias accepted in such a frank and positive manner, with regard to the accusation, that Russia merely sought by the negotiations to compromise Austria; no person can know better than the minister of his Imperial and Royal Austrian Majesty, by whom the armistice was proposed, and how it was accepted, so that it is scarcely possible to say whom the insult affects the nearest; whether a wise, puissant, and enlightened Court, which was not aware of such a stratagem, or Russia, which has proved by facts, since her armies passed the Vistula and the Oder, that she demands no more than to offer her hand to a reasonable and solid peace, and to agree to any arrangement, which should have for its result the happiness and tranquillity of nations.

Austria had prepared the elements for it, by

charging herself with the mediation; but it appears it was not the intention of his Majesty the Emperor of the French to permit their developement.

These truths stand in no need of demonstration, and the undersigned confines himself to repeat officially to his Excellency, the mediator's plenipotentiary, what has already formed the subject of his preceding official notes; that being convinced that a mode of negotiation which is strictly conformable, whatever the French plenipotentiaries may say, to what was done at the peace of Teschen, and having solemnly accepted it, he persists in it.

He will ask at the same time, and to destroy by a single remark, the vain and sophistical verbosity of the French note; which is the party that wished for peace, and which is the party that did not wish for it?

The undersigned has been at Prague since the 29th of July, and has doubly legitimated himself on his powers; and it was on the 6th August, that is to say, four days before the final term, that the French plenipotentiaries opened the active negotiations to establish contradictory forms by themselves, in order, in fact, to lose sight of the



grand object which appeared to have brought them to Prague.

The undersigned has had no other view in this present note, than to expose to the mediating power the manner in which he considers the questions of the moment in their consequences towards her, because his conduct during the continuation of his residence at Prague has been irrevocably regulated by the obligation of his Court towards that whose mediation she had accepted.

(Signed) D'ANSTAEDT.

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*Copy of a Note from M. de Humboldt to his Excellency Count de Metternich.*

*Prague, August 7, 1813.*

The undersigned minister of state and plenipotentiary from his Majesty the King of Prussia, yesterday received the note of the French plenipotentiaries, which his Excellency Count de Metternich, minister of state and for foreign affairs, and plenipotentiary to his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, had the goodness to com-

municate to him. When their Majesties the King of Prussia and the Emperor of Russia hastened to accept the mediation of the Court of Vienna, and thereby proving both their desire of terminating the calamities of war, and their deference for his Imperial and Royal Austrian Majesty, they might have supposed that their adversary would have equally respected this mediation, and that they would have been safe from seeing so false and injurious an interpretation given to their intentions. The note which has been just communicated to the undersigned proves that this expectation was illusory.—The conduct of the French plenipotentiaries is deficient in all the respect due to the mediating Court, and destroys at once all hopes of peace, by gratuitously supposing, in the allied Courts, views contrary to its re-establishment; and they pervert, instead of answering in a plain and natural manner, the notes of the mediator; so that throughout there has not been one represented in its true light, which was presented on its proper day.

The undersigned abstains from analyzing the passages which regard the mediation of Vienna. To repeat its words would be to hurt the sentiments which his Court has continually professed towards his Majesty the Emperor of Austria.

The most simple notions of mediation, and the mere perusal of the convention of the 30th June, will be sufficient to enable us to form a judgment upon it.

The form of the negotiations could not be agreed upon separately at Dresden between the mediating court and the French government. The unlimited confidence of the allied courts at the first rendered all further explanation useless on this point. The French plenipotentiaries, therefore, cannot be astonished at not seeing the conferences opened, which, according to the proposal for the form of the transactions in writing, could not take place.

But the undersigned might have expressed his just surprise at the delay in the arrival of the French plenipotentiaries, and the length into which the negotiation was protracted, if it had not been the resolution of his Court to refer whatever concerned this negotiation solely to the mediating power.

It was his regard for the benevolent negotiation of his Imperial and Royal Apostolic Majesty, which alone could cause his Majesty the King of Prussia to condescend to suffer his minister to wait during fifteen days to no purpose for the

French plenipotentiaries; and his Excellency Count de Metternich would certainly feel it natural, that without the same sentiments, the undersigned should deem it his duty not to continue his abode here until the actual moment, nor expose himself to see a false light thrown by France on the pure, upright, and benevolent intentions of the allied courts.

The form of negotiation proposed in the note of the French plenipotentiaries, may be judged by itself. An union of the two opposite forms of transaction, by writing and conferences, was not possible, unless by so depriving the former of the advantages which caused it to be proposed, that they would only be preserved to appearance; therefore it would not have been useful in any manner; and the undersigned thinks it almost superfluous to say, that he ought to continue in insisting on the form proposed by his Excellency the Count de Metternich, and which has served for the basis to a known and memorable peace.

Although the note of the French plenipotentiaries affects to apply solely to the conduct and views of the court of Russia, (an affectation which is extended to the ministers of the two courts,) whilst the steps of Prussia and Russia, as likewise those of their agents, have constantly pre-

vented the most perfect concordance, the undersigned has no need to say, that his Majesty the King, his master, can but doubly resent that passage in it which concerns his august ally ; and that it is impossible to apply to it the name which it deserves. It would be beneath all dignity to vouchsafe a reply to it.

The people cannot be mistaken as to the authors of their evils. The Sovereign, who, after having repulsed the most unjust aggression, and after having succeeded, by the efforts of his faithful subjects, in destroying an army which had dared to invade his empire, has professed the most pure and the most noble desire of re-establishing a stable and solid peace, is not the one that should ever be charged with the wish of putting it off, or of prolonging the miseries of war.

The great and important question in the present transaction is, without doubt, that of peace ; and Europe and posterity will easily judge which of the two parties has opposed itself to its prompt establishment ; whether it be the allied Courts, which, as well as the mediating Court, have, by departing from the grand principle to which they will ever remain faithful, of restoring a state of good order, and the general balance of power

to Europe, have done every thing not to lose a single instant of those precious moments, which the repose of arms offered for the work of pacification, or whether it is the government which, after having deferred, without any plausible pretext, the commencement of the negotiation; and after having followed up one by another, does not hesitate in causing to be sent, four days before the expiration of the armistice, a note, similar to that which the undersigned has just examined, not without a lively and deep sense of pain, in seeing those questions, on which the welfare and tranquillity of nations depend, treated in such a manner.

The undersigned has the honour, &c.

(Signed)

HUMBOLOT.

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(No. XXXVII.)

*Note from the Count de Metternich to the Plenipotentiaries of France.*

*Prague, August 8, 1813.*

The undersigned minister of state and for foreign affairs to his Imperial and Royal Apostolic Majesty, plenipotentiary from the mediating

Court, at the same time that he discharges himself of the communication of the official paper, dated 7th, from the plenipotentiaries of Russia and Prussia, thinks it his duty to reply on his part to the note which their Excellencies the Duke of Vicenza and the Count de Narbonne, plenipotentiaries from his Majesty the Emperor of the French, King of Italy, did him the honour to address to him the day before yesterday.

As a negociator of the convention of the 8th of June, he never consented to the two points anterior to the signature of the act of which mention is made in their Excellencies' note.— To demonstrate the error which has dictated this assertion, it will be sufficient to assure that it would have been as contrary to the dignity of his august Court to enter into an engagement of being impartial, as that of not binding itself by any convention, even eventual, during the negociation; and the parts of mediator and arbitrator are too widely different for Austria, in charging itself with the former, with the consent of the powers interested, ever to think of arrogating to herself the attributes of the other.

Neither can the undersigned admit that he has detained his Excellency the Duke of Bassano, by the form of the conferences to be adopted in

the negotiation. The particular attention which the two Courts of Russia and Prussia might, with regard to their political attitude, find themselves inclined to observe, relative to the choice of that form of negotiation, has in truth been the subject of several conversations between the undersigned and his Excellency the Duke of Bassano; but the forms of a negotiation could not be unilaterally regulated by the mediator and one of the powers concerned in the negotiation, to the exclusion of the other parties; and the arrival of the French plenipotentiaries having experienced some delays, the mode of negotiation was touched upon by Count de Bubna, by virtue of orders which were addressed to him under date of the 17th of July, and the conferences in this respect did not lead to any result.

The undersigned formally protests against the assertion, that the pretended concert established on this subject, was caused by the manifestation of the intention of Russia to open the negotiations, with a view of compromising Austria. His Majesty the Emperor would not have charged himself with the mediation between the belligerent powers, if he had not had confidence in their reciprocal good faith, and his penetration could no more be taken by surprise, than his impartial sincerity.



The form of negotiation proposed to their Excellencies, the plenipotentiaries of France, could not have been unforeseen, as they being specified in the overtures made in this respect by Count de Bubna; and they are so far from being unusual in similar transactions, that they were admitted as the basis of the negotiations at Teschen acted in support of the proposal made by the undersigned. The reasons which engaged him to prefer them at that time, still subsist, and he renews his invitation to their Excellencies to adhere to them on their part.

(Signed) The Count de METTERNICH.

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(No. XXXVIII.)

*Note from the Plenipotentiaries of France to  
Count de Metternich.*

*Prague,, Aug. 9, 1813.*

The undersigned plenipotentiaries from his Majesty the Emperor of the French have received, together with the two notes which his Excellency Count de Metternich, minister of state for foreign affairs, and plenipotentiary of the mediating Court, has done them the honour

of addressing to them yesterday, the copies of those of the Russian and Prussian plenipotentiaries. Penetrated with the sacred obligation, which the nature itself of their mission imposes on them, that of banishing discussion which does not tend to the realizing the dearest hopes of nations, the undersigned will not consider any thing in the notes transmitted to them, but those points which have a direct tendency to the works of pacification. They will likewise avoid enlarging in protestations of their desire of peace, because, however natural it may be to do ourselves that honour, this desire may regulate the spirit of negociations, but not the progress of affairs, which ought to be treated according to established usages in their proper order, and in removing difficulties as they may occur.

It is with equal surprise and regret, that the undersigned perceive that the notes which have been transmitted to them have for their aim the rejection of a proposal which had to them appeared, and which in fact is, the only proper one for conciliating the diversity of opinions which has arisen concerning the form of the negociations.

In this state of affairs, they address themselves with confidence to the mediator, to represent to

him what it is impossible not to acknowledge, that the only overture which has actually tended to commence the negotiations was made by them.

In fact, the contrariety of sentiment of the two parties, leaving the question undecided, and the opinion of the mediator, whatever weight his wisdom and enlightened knowledge may give him, not having been able to decide it, the undersigned, influenced as much by deference to the mediator, as by the desire of smoothing all difficulties, have consented to adopt entirely the mode which he had proposed, merely demanding that their proposal should be likewise admitted.

This would then be one step forwards, for it would be unjust not to consider as such, in a negotiation, the total sacrifice of the pretensions of one party to the other. They were authorized to hope, that after this step on their part, taken in the form desired by the mediator, he would at length have decided on giving effect to those motives, not less founded on reason than on custom, with which they have supported their proposal in the frequent official conferences that they have had with Count Metternich on this subject.

They nevertheless see that the allied plenipotentiaries, without combating this proposal, without replying to the considerations which have dictated it, and even without alledging any other means than their own will, persist in their pretensions, and that the plenipotentiary of the mediating Court ranges himself entirely on their side, although it cannot be dissembled that the only motive he has been able to adduce in justification of this preference, has no longer any foundation, since that the undersigned have admitted the forms proposed by him.

All the objections which could be made against the mode which they have pointed out by their note of the 6th, will fall to the ground of themselves, if we reflect that it conciliates all pretensions, that it unites all the advantages of the different forms, the authenticity of negotiating in writing, with the facility and celerity of a verbal negotiation.

It would be superfluous to attend to the strange assertion that this mode is unusual, as the most simple examination of facts would be sufficient to destroy that objection. No person can be ignorant that in the principal congresses of which history makes mention, in those in which, as at present, interests equally complicated and va-

rious were to be discussed, at Munster, at Nimeguen, at Ryswick; this double form was always employed. Would not to refuse it at this present time be evidently to shew that the pacific intentions, which so much pains are taken to announce, are not those which are actually meant? It is affected continually, to instance Teschen, and to take for a rule that which has been an exception, and constantly to appeal to the result of this negociation, as if those which have been cited had had a less favourable issue, and as if they had not equally regulated the interests of Sovereigns, and the tranquillity of States.

Whatever it may be, we ask again for the motive which gives preference to a form which was solely followed under a circumstance where there was only one object to treat upon, and of which even the basis had already been settled before hand. It is easy to judge, from the actual state of the question, who ought to be accused of the delays occasioned to the negociation, those who by raising a pretension opposed to the received usage, reject a proposal which insures to them all the advantages they desire; or those who, having on their side the usage universally adopted by the adverse party, and confine themselves to demanding that a mode of treating, which in despite of all allegations to the contrary,

can alone produce speedy results, should not be excluded.

The undersigned flatter themselves that these considerations will be so much the more felt by his Excellency Count Metternich, as it cannot have escaped him, that if the exclusive form of written negotiations offer some advantages, it is not, at least if we may judge from the notes which he has communicated to the undersigned, that which will assist in conciliating all minds. He will no doubt likewise remark, that the proposals made by the undersigned, have, on the contrary, been a fresh proof of their constant desire to remove all difficulties in the way of peace, even when their adversaries appear to have renounced it.

They therefore renew the proposals which they have not ceased to make, of exchanging their full powers, in order immediately to open the negotiation, according to the form proposed by the mediating power, without, however, excluding the form of conferences, in order to preserve the means of explaining verbally. The undersigned have, &c.

(Signed)

CAULAINCOURT,  
Duke of Vicenza.  
L. NARBONNE.

(No. XXXIX.)

*Note from his Excellency Count de Metternich, to  
the French Plenipotentiary.*

*Prague, August 10, 1813.*

The minister of state and for foreign affairs, to his Imperial and Royal Austrian Majesty, plenipotentiary from the mediating Court, yesterday delivered to the plenipotentiaries of Russia and Prussia, the note which their Excellencies the French plenipotentiaries did him the honour of addressing to him. He has just received, in reply from Baron D'Anstaedt, and Baron D'Humboldt, the notes of this day's date, of which the annexed are copies, and which he is desirous not to delay transmitting to the French plenipotentiaries.

The undersigned seizes this opportunity, &c.

(Signed)

METTERNICH.

*Note from M. D'Anstaedt to Count de Metternich:  
Prague, July 29, (August 10) 1813.*

The undersigned has just received the copy of the note which the French plenipotentiaries have addressed under yesterday's date, to his Excel-

lency Count de Mottarnich, plenipotentiary of the mediating Court. It has not been surprised to see, that endeavours are made on the last day of the negotiations, to throw all the blame both on the mediator and on the plenipotentiaries of the allied powers. This proceeding is nothing novel. On the whole, all that this paper affirms to-day has been refuted before-hand. But when the French plenipotentiaries say that our official notes have not been of the proper nature to conciliate mens' minds, it will be necessary to remind them of the serious insult offered to Russia in their note of the 5th, to judge who has departed from received usages in the conduct of a work in which all that calmness and dignity ought to preside which are required in negotiations of this kind. It is a new reason to convince the plenipotentiaries of the allied powers, that the form by writing is the only admissible one, because the papers would be read, and such unjust charges recoil upon their authors.

Finally, if the example of the congress of Utrecht is so strongly insisted on, why then have not the French plenipotentiaries judged it proper to adopt its preliminary forms, by causing their powers to be countersigned by the mediator? This would have been effectively one step taken. But it is not for the undersigned to discuss a



question which directly concerns the mediatory power; and he hastens to avail himself of this opportunity to renew, &c.

(Signed) D'ANSTAEDT.

*Note from M. de Humboldt, to his Excellency  
Count de Metternich.*

*Prague, August 10, 1813.*

The undersigned minister of state and plenipotentiary of his Majesty the King of Prussia, has seen by the note of the French plenipotentiaries, of the date of which his Excellency Count de Metternich, minister of state, and for foreign affairs, and plenipotentiary of his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, has done him the honour of communicating to him, by his note of the same day, that the French plenipotentiaries continue to decline the form of negotiation which has been proposed to them by the mediating Court, and which those of Prussia and Russia were willing to accept.

It is true that the French plenipotentiaries have said in their note that they entirely adopted the mode proposed, by demanding simply that their

proposals should likewise be admitted. But it being evident that the form of transactions by writings, and some conferences had been proposed by Count de Metternich as two forms entirely different and even opposite, in his note of July 29, it is clear that their union could not be effected without the mode of transacting by writing conjunctly with conferences, losing its whole characteristic, and being in reality, sacrificed to the other, which, if its eventive transactions by writing were joined to it, would no less present all the inconveniences so clearly stated in the note before cited.

This is what the undersigned thinks he has shewn by his note of the 7th of this month: he would nevertheless enlarge still more on this subject, were he not prevented by the date of the note of the French plenipotentiaries, and that of his reply to it. Forced again to explain himself on the mode of the negotiations, on the very day when they ought to have terminated, he thought it useless to enter into a more ample detail. The date, the continuance, and the tenor of the papers which have been exchanged, and the entire progress of the negotiation, equally dispense the undersigned from replying to the different charges, direct or indirect, which are contained in the note of the French plenipotentiaries.

Ever esteeming himself fortunate when he can avoid replying to communications so little adapted to conciliate men's minds, he confines himself simply to renew to his Excellency Count de Metternich, the assurances of his high consideration.

HUMBOLDT.

(A true Copy)

METTERNICH.

(No. XL.)

*Note from the French Plenipotentiaries to the  
Count de Metternich.*

*Prague August 10, 1813.*

The undersigned, &c. have just received the note which his Excellency Count de Metternich, &c. has done them the honour of addressing to them, to which is annexed that of the plenipotentiaries of Russia and Prussia. They might begin by observing, that these notes contain sundry imputations upon them, which, to say the least, are not accurate; such as that they demanded the form of the negotiations of Utrecht, negotiations which they have not cited, as they could not be ignorant that they took place without the intervention of a mediator, and that they refused to

have the copy of their full powers attested by the plenipotentiary of the mediatory power. But faithful to their resolution of setting aside every thing which might obstruct the progress of the negotiations, they confine themselves with replying to assertions no less incorrect, but which are of much greater importance, contained in the said notes.

The allied plenipotentiaries ground the advantage of the form which they have proposed, on the facility it gives for all the papers of the negotiation to be read. Far from having it to be laid to their charge, that they wished to envelope themselves in a veil, as appears to have been intimated, they have rather shewn a desire for this publicity, because they have not only adopted this form, but besides, in requesting some conferences for the purpose of adding the advantage of verbal discussion, they proposed that a protocol should be held, which might preserve the very words of each of the negociators.

The passage which regards the date of the notes, and which appears to prejudge the period at which the negotiations should be terminated, does it not seem to be a fresh proof of the fear which the allied plenipotentiaries appear always

to have had of their being opened? The words—*last day of the negotiations*, carry with them a very mournful reflection, by seeming to signify, that for this present all ideas of conciliation are renounced, whilst the convention signed at Neu-markt, by establishing a term, before which it is not permitted to denounce the armistice, makes it by no means an obligation, nor does it otherwise in any manner announce that when that time is arrived the negotiations should cease. Will not the mediator consider it his most sacred duty to concur in causing an interpretation to be rejected, which would destroy the hope of a nearer approach to reconciliation, which the undersigned wish to hasten by all their efforts?

The replies of the allied plenipotentiaries do not even disprove, still less refute, the reasons presented by the undersigned in their note of yesterday; they think they ought to insist with the mediator, and request him, with all the means placed in his power by the part with which he is charged, to engage the plenipotentiaries of Russia and Prussia to discuss the questions, instead of abruptly breaking them off; in fine, to adopt the only proposal which can produce a happy result, as it excludes no means of conciliation, and assures to each party all the advantages it wishes to preserve.

The undersigned flatter themselves that these explanations will determine the mediator to convince the Russian and Prussian plenipotentiaries that reason, the spirit of conciliation, and the sincere desire of peace, are on the side of those who defend the principles and usages of all times.

They avail themselves, &c.

(Signed

CAULAINCOURT.

L. NARBONNE.

(No. XLI.)

*Note from M. Count de Metternich to the French Plenipotentiaries.*

*Prague, August 11, 1813.*

The undersigned, minister of state and for foreign affairs to his Imperial and Royal Austrian Majesty, and plenipotentiary from the mediating Court, has the honour of transmitting to their Excellencies the Duke de Vicenza and the Count de Narbonne, plenipotentiaries of his Majesty the Emperor of the French, King of Italy, a copy of the papers which they have just received on the part of the plenipotentiaries of his Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, and of his Ma-

jesty the King of Prussia, by which they declare to him, that the term of the armistice being expired, they consider the congress united, met for the negotiation of peace, as dissolved.

It is with sincere regret that the undersigned sees in consequence, his functions as a mediator at an end, without deriving any other consolation from his fruitless endeavour to bring the pacification of the belligerent powers to a satisfactory conclusion than that of not having on his part neglected any means to consummate so salutary a work.

The undersigned embraces with avidity the opportunity of this last official communication to offer their Excellencies the assurances of his high consideration.

(Signed)      Count de METTERNICH.

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*Note from M. D'Anstaedt to Count de Metternich.*

*Prague, July 29 (August 10), at Midnight.*

The final term of mediation, and the negotiations opened at Prague, having expired before the day of the 10th, the undersigned has express

orders to declare formally, that his full powers cease from this moment.

Being on the point of leaving this city, he could not do it without acquitting himself of the sacred duty of offering to the Count de Metternich the expressions of his lively remembrance, for those marks of confidence and kindness with which he has been pleased to honour him personally.

With regard to the impartiality, the nobleness, the spirit of conciliation, and the purity of principles, which his Excellency has manifested in his quality of mediator, it does not belong to the undersigned to anticipate the assurances which the allied Courts will render of them to Count de Metternich. He confines himself to renewing to him those of his highest consideration.

(Signed) D'ANSTAEDT.

(A true copy) (Signed) METTERNICH.

*Note from M. de Humboldt to his Excellency  
the Count de Metternich.*

*Prague, August 10, at Midnight, 1813.*

The term of the negotiations which had been



opened under the mediation of his Imperial and Royal Austrian Majesty, having expired with the day of the 10th of August, the undersigned minister of state and plenipotentiary to his Majesty the King of Prussia, is charged, by express orders from his Court, to declare formally to his Excellency Count de Metternich, minister of state and for foreign affairs, to his Majesty the Emperor of Austria, that his full powers, as well as his character of plenipotentiary, are now at an end.

The undersigned, in consequence, would not lose a moment in requesting his Excellency Count de Metternich to assure his Imperial Majesty how greatly his Majesty the King of Prussia, whilst feeling the most lively and sincere regret, that the beneficent intentions of the mediating Court have not been able to produce the desired result, is sensible of the fresh marks of interest and confidence which his Majesty the Emperor has been pleased to give him on this important occasion.

These efforts made with common accord to give a lasting and solid peace to Europe, could not fail to add to those sentiments of friendship and attachment which both Sovereigns mutually feel, and his Excellency the Count de Metter-

nich knows of how much value every thing which related to his sentiments, is in the eyes, and dear to the heart, of his Majesty.

The undersigned avails himself of this opportunity to present to his Excellency Count de Metternich the expression of his most particular gratitude for all the proofs of kindness and confidence which his Excellency has personally shewn him, and begs him at the same time to accept the assurances of his high consideration.

(Signed) HUMBOLDT.

(A true copy.) (Signed) METTERNICH.

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(No. XLII.)

*Note from the Plenipotentiaries of France to  
Count de Metternich.*

*Prague, Aug. 11, 1813.*

The undersigned plenipotentiaries of his Majesty the Emperor of the French, have received with the note which his Excellency the Count de Metternich has this day done them the honour of addressing to them, the copies of those which his Excellency has just received from the Russian

and Prussian plenipotentiaries. They have with pain, but without surprise, perceived by this communication the eagerness with which the allied plenipotentiaries have seized the opportunity for depriving the work of pacification of the little time that still remains for it; and they should have expected that the mediator would have used his whole influence to preserve to the negotiation moments which might bring about the tranquillity of Europe. The undersigned, convinced of their not having neglected any thing to fulfil the pacific intentions of their august Master, of which they have again given an instance, by renewing in pressing terms, in their note of yesterday, the most conciliatory proposals, unfeignedly regret, that there now remains to them no other duty to fulfil than to lay before his Imperial and Royal Majesty the notes which have been addressed to them by Count de Metternich.

(Signed)

CAULAINCOURT,  
Duke of Vicenza.  
L. NARBONNE.

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**BUONAPARTE'S BULLETINS,**

FROM

THE TERMINATION OF THE ARMISTICE,

TO

**HIS ABDICATION OF THE THRONES OF FRANCE  
AND ITALY.**

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**FIRST BULLETIN.***Paris, Sept. 5, 1813.*

Her Majesty the Empress Queen and Regent on her return from her voyage to Cherbourg, to-day alighted at the palace of St. Cloud at one o'clock in the morning. At noon, the cannon announced her arrival in the capital.

Her Majesty the Empress Queen and Regent has received the following intelligence from the army, dated the 26th of August:

" The enemies denounced the armistice on the 11th, at noon, and stated that hostilities would commence on the 17th, at midnight; at the same time, a note from Count Metternich, Austrian minister for foreign affairs, addressed to Count de Narbonne, gave him to understand Austria's having declared war against France.

" On the 17th, the disposition of the two armies were as follows :

" The 4th, 12th, and 7th corps, under the orders of the Duke of Reggio, were at Dahme.

" Prince Eckmuhl, with his corps, to which the Danes were joined, encamped before Hamburg, his head quarters being at Bergedorff.

" The 3d corps was at Leignitz, under the Prince of Moskwa's orders.

" The 5th corps was at Goldsberg, under General Lauriston's orders.

" The 11th corps was at Lowenberg, under the Duke of Tarente.

" The 6th corps, commanded by the Duke of Ragusa, was at Buntzlau.

" The 8th corps, under Prince Poniatowski, was at Zittau.

" Marshal St. Cyr was with the 14th corps, the left leaning upon the Elbe to the camp at Koenigstein, on both sides the great road from Prague to Dresden, pushing corps of observation to the debouches from Lowenberg.

**“ The 1st corps had arrived at Dresden, and the 2d at Zittau.**

**“ Dresden, Torgau, Wittenberg, Magdeburg, and Hamburg, had each their garrison, and were armed and provisioned.**

**“ The enemy's army was, as far as could be ascertained, in the following position :**

**“ Eighty thousand Russians and Prussians entered, on the morning of the 10th, Bohemia, and were on the 21st to arrive on the Elbe. That army was commanded by the Emperor Alexander and the King of Prussia, the Russian Generals Barclay de Tolly, Witgenstein, and Miloradovitch, and the Prussian General Kleist. The Russian and Prussian guards formed a part of it, which, joined to Prince Schwartzenberg's army, formed the grand army, and a force of 200,000 men. This army was to act on the left bank of the Elbe, by passing that river in Bohemia.**

**“ The Silesian army, commanded by the Prussian Generals Blucher and Von D'York, and the Russian Generals Sacken and Langeron appeared to collect upon Breslau : it was 100,000 men strong.**

“Several Prussian and Swedish corps, and the insurrectional corps, covered Berlin, and were opposite Hamburg and the Duke of Reggio. The force of the army which covered Berlin was estimated at 110,000 men.

“All the enemy's operations were made, under the idea that the Emperor would repass to the left bank of the Elbe.

“The Imperial guard left Dresden, marched on the 15th to Bautzen, and on the 18th to Goerlitz.

“On the 19th the Emperor went to Zittau, and instantly ordered Prince Poniatowski's corps to march, forced the debouches of Bohemia, and passed the great chain of mountains which separate from Bohemia to Lusace, and entered Gabel, whilst Generals Lefevre and Desnouettes, with a division of infantry and cavalry of the guard, obtained possession of Rumburg, cleared the neck of the mountains at Georgenthal, and the Polish General Rominski took Friedland and Reichenburg.

This operation was intended to disturb the enemy at Prague, and acquire certain information respecting their designs. We there learned,

what our spies had already informed us, that the *elite* of the Russian and Prussian army were traversing Bohemia, and uniting upon the left bank of the Elbe, our light troops pushed to within sixteen leagues of Prague.

“The Emperor was at Zittau, on his return from Bohemia on the 20th, at ten o'clock in the morning. He left the Duke of Belluno with the second corps at Zittau, to strengthen the corps of Prince Poniatowski. He placed General Vandamme with the first corps at Rumburg, to support Generals Lefevre and Desnouettes: these two generals occupying the point in force, caused redoubts to be thrown upon the height which commanded the point. The Emperor took the road to Laubau, in Silesia, where he arrived on the 21st, before seven in the evening. The enemy's army of Silesia had violated the neutrality, and passed through the neutral territory since the 12th. They had on the 16th insulted all our advanced posts, and carried off some videttes.

On the 16th, a Russian corps placed itself between the Bober and the post of Speller, occupied by 200 men of the division of Charpentier. These brave men, who were reposing themselves on the faith of treaties, flew to arms,



passed through the enemy's centre, and dispersed them. They were commanded by the chief of division, Guillermin.

" On the 18th, the Duke of Tarente gave orders to General Zucetie to take the small town of Lahn; he marched there with an Italian brigade; he bravely executed his orders, and caused the enemy a loss of upwards of 500 men. General Zucetie is an officer of distinguished merit. The Italian troops attacked the Russians, who were superior in number, with the bayonet.

On the 19th instant, the enemy encamped at Zobtarn; a corps of 13,000 Russians passed the Bober, and attacked the post of Liebenicken, which was defended by three light companies.

" General Lauriston caused a part of his corps to take to arms, left Lowenberg, marched to the enemy, and drove him into the Bober. The brigade of General Lafette, of the division of Rochambeau, has distinguished itself.

" Meanwhile, the Emperor arrived on the 20th at Lauban, and at break of day, on the 21st, he was at Lowenberg, and caused bridges to be thrown across the Bober. General Lau-

riston's corps crossed the river at noon. General Maison, with his accustomed valour, beat down every thing that endeavoured to oppose his passage, carried all the positions, and drew the enemy fighting near to Goldsberg: he was supported by the 5th and 11th corps. On his left, the Prince of Moskwa caused General Sacken to be attacked by the 3d corps in front of Breslau, overthrew them, put them to rout, and took some prisoners.

“ The enemy put himself in retreat. An engagement took place before Goldsberg on the 23d of August. General Lauriston was there, at the head of the 5th and 11th corps. He had before him the Russians, who covered the position of Flensburg, and the Prussians, who extended themselves to the right on the road to Leignitz. At the moment when General Gerard debouched to the left on Niederau, a column of 25,000 Prussians appeared at this point. He caused them to be attacked in the middle of the barracks of the old camp, which were forced at all parts: the Prussians essayed to make several charges of cavalry, which were repulsed every where; they were driven from their positions, and left near 5000 dead on the field of battle, besides some prisoners, &c. On the night Flensburg was taken and retaken several times: at length, the 135th regiment threw itself on the enemy, and entirely overthrew him. The enemy

has lost at this point 1000 dead, and 4000 wounded. The allied army retired in disorder and in great haste towards Jauer. The enemy being thus defeated in Silesia, the Emperor took with him the Prince of Moskwa, left the command of the army in Silesia to the Duke of Tarente, and arrived on the 25th at Stolpen. The old and young guards, infantry, cavalry, and artillery, performed these forty leagues in four days."

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#### SECOND BULLETIN.

*Paris, September 6, 1813.*

Her Majesty the Empress Queen and Regent, has received the following intelligence from the army, dated 28th August :

" On the 26th, at eight o'clock in the morning, the Emperor entered Dresden. The grand Russian, Prussian, and Austrian army, commanded by the Sovereigns, was before it; it crowned all the hills which surround Dresden, at the distance of a short league upon the left bank. Marshal St. Cyr, with the 14th corps, and the garrison of Dresden, occupied the intrenched camp, and lined with sharp-shooters the fortifications which surrounded the suburbs.

“All was tranquil at noon, but to the skilful eye this calm was the precursor of a storm; an attack appeared imminent.

“At four in the afternoon, at the signal of the firing of three cannon, six enemy's columns, each preceded by 50 pieces of artillery, formed, and a few moments after descended into the plain; they marched towards the redoubts. In less than a quarter of an hour the fire became terrible. The fire of a redoubt being silenced, the assailants turned it, and made efforts at the foot of the fortifications of the suburbs, where a good number met death.

“It was near five o'clock, a part of the reserve of the 4th corps was engaged. Some shells fell in the town; the moment appeared pressing. The Emperor ordered the King of Naples to march with General Latour Maubourg's cavalry upon the enemy's right flank, and the Duke of Treviso to march against the left flank. The four divisions of the young guard, commanded by Generals Dumoutier, Barroe, Decouz, and Roquet, then debouched, two by the gate of Pirna, and two by the gate of Plauen. The Prince of Moskwa debouched at the head of Barroe's division. Those divisions overthrew every thing before them. The fire immediately got to a distance from the

centre to the circumference, and was soon driven back upon the hills. The field of battle remained covered with dead, cannon, and wrecks.

“ General Dumontier is wounded, as are likewise Generals Bygeldieu, Tyndal, and Combelles. The officer of artillery, Berenger, is mortally wounded; he was a young man of great hopes. General Gros, of the guards, was the first to throw himself into the ditch of a redoubt, where the enemy's sappers were already at work; in cutting down the pallisades he received a bayonet wound.

“ The night became dark, and the fire ceased, the enemy having failed in his attack, and left upwards of 2000 prisoners on the field of battle, which was covered with dead and wounded.

“ On the 27th, the weather was dreadful, and the rain fell in torrents. The soldiers had passed the night in mud and water. At nine o'clock in the morning we could plainly perceive the enemy lengthening his left, and covering the heights which were separated from his centre by the valley of Plauen.

“ The King of Naples departed with the corps of the Duke of Belluno, and the division of

cuirassiers, and debouched on the road of Freyberg to attack this left wing. He performed it with the greatest success. The six divisions which composed this wing were broken and scattered. The half of them, with their colours and cannon, were made prisoners, and amongst the number are several generals.

"In the centre a brisk cannonade fixed the enemy's attention, and some columns shewed themselves ready to attack him on his left.

"The Duke of Treviso, with General Nansouty manœuvred in the plain, with his left to the river, and his right to the heights.

"Marshal St. Cyr's corps joined our left with the centre which was formed of the Duke of Ragusa's corps.

"About two o'clock in the afternoon, the enemy decided on making his retreat; he had lost his grand communication with Bohemia on his left and right wings.

"The result of this day is 25, to 30,000 prisoners, forty pair of colours, and sixty pieces of artillery.

We may reckon that the enemy has lost 60,000 men, our loss in killed, wounded and taken, amounts to 4,000 men.

"The cavalry has covered itself with glory. The etat-major of the cavalry will publish the details, and mention those who have distinguished themselves. The young guards have merited the praises of the whole army. The old guards had two battalions engaged; its other battalions were kept in reserve in the village, to be at disposal. The two battalions which were engaged beat down every thing before them.

"The city of Dresden ran great risks of danger.

"The conduct of the inhabitants has been such as we should expect from an allied people. The King of Saxony and his family remained at Dresden, and have shown the example of confidence."

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### THIRD BULLETIN.

*Paris, Sept. 7, 1813.*

**Her Majesty the Empress, Queen and Regent**

has received the following intelligence from the army, dated August 30th, 1813 :

“ On the 28th, 29th, and 30th, we followed up our success ; Generals Castix, Doumère, and D'Oudenarde, of General Latour Maubourg's corps, have taken 1000 caissons, or waggons of ammunition, and collected many prisoners. The villages are full of the enemy's wounded ; we already reckon 10,000 of them.

“ The enemy, according to the report of prisoners, had eight generals killed or wounded.

“ The Duke of Ragusa, has had several affairs of advanced posts, which attest the intrepidity of his troops.

“ General Vandamme commanding the first corps, on the 25th debouched by Königstein, and on the 26th took possession of the camp at Pirna, of the town and of Hoendorf. He intercepted the grand communication from Prague to Dresden. The Duke of Wirtemberg with 15,000 Russians was charged with observing the debouche : on the 28th, General Vandamme attacked and defeated him, took 2000 prisoners, six pieces of cannon, and drove him into Bohe-



nia. The Prince of Reuss, general of brigade, an officer of merit, was killed.

“On the 29th, General Vandamme took a position upon the heights of Bohemia, and established himself there. He caused the country to be scoured by different parties of light troops, to obtain intelligence of the enemy, annoy him, and seize upon his magazines.

“The Prince of Eckmuhl was, on the 24th, at Schwerin. He had had no affair of consequence. The Danes had distinguished themselves in several trifling affairs. The opening of the campaign has been most brilliant, and allows us to form great hopes. The quality of our infantry is much superior to that of the enemy.”

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#### FOURTH BULLETIN.

*Paris, Sept. 7th, 1813.*

Her Majesty the Empress Queen and Regent has received the following intelligence from the army, dated Sept. 1:

“On the 28th of August, the King of Naples,

and the Duke of Belluno, slept at Freyberg ; the 29th, at Liehlenberg ; the 30th, at Zittau ; and the 31st, at Saydo.

“ The Duke of Ragusa, with the 6th, slept, on the 28th, at Dippoldeswalde, where the enemy abandoned 1200 wounded ; on the 29th, at Falkenheim ; and on the 31st, at Zennwald.

“ The 14th corps, under the orders of Marshal St. Cyr, was, on the 28th, at Maxen ; the 29th, at Reinhold Grumna ; the 30th, at Dillesdorf ; the 31st, at Biellman.

“ The first corps under General Vandamme was, on the 28th, at Hollendorf ; and the 29th, at Peterswalde, occupying the mountains.

“ The Duke of Treviso was in position on the 28th and 29th at Pirna.

“ General Pajal, commanding the cavalry, has made some prisoners.

“ The enemy retired to the position of Dippoldeswalde and Altenberg. His left followed the Plauen road, and fell back by Tharandt upon Dippoldeswalde, not being able to retreat by the Freyberg road. His right could neither retire

by the causeway of Pirna, nor that of Dalma, and therefore retired upon Maxen, and from thence upon Dippoldeswalde. All that there were of partizans or detached corps were cut off. The Russian, Prussian, and Austrian baggage, got entangled upon the causeway of Freyberg; several thousand carriages were taken there. Arrived at Altenberg, where the road from Toeplitz to Dippoldeswalde became impracticable, the enemy took the resolution of abandoning more than 1,000 carriages of ammunition and baggage. This grand army re-entered Bohemia, after having lost part of its artillery and baggage.

“On the 29th, General Vandamme passed with eight or ten battalions, the neck of the grand chain, and marched upon Kulm. He there met the enemy 8 or 10,000 strong; they engaged him; not finding himself sufficiently strong, he made his corps d’armée descend; he would have soon overthrown the enemy. In place of re-entering and again placing himself upon the heights, he remained and took a position at Kulm, without guarding the mountain: this mountain commanded the only causeway—it is high. It was only on the 30th, that Marshal St. Cyr and the Duke of Ragusa arrived at the debouche from Toeplitz. General Vandamme only thought

of closing the road against the enemy, and taking all. *To a flying army a bridge of gold must be made, or a barrier of steel opposed*; he was not strong enough to oppose this barrier of steel. However, the enemy perceiving that this corps d'armée of 18,000 remained alone in Bohemia, separated by high mountains, and that all the others were at the foot of the mountains on the other side, saw that he was lost unless he defeated it; he conceived the hope of successfully attacking it, its position being bad. The Russian guards were at the head of the army which fought in retreating: to them were joined two fresh Austrian divisions. The remainder of the enemy's army joined them as it debouched, followed by the 2d, 6th, and 14th corps. These troops reached the 1st corps. General Vandamme shewed a good countenance, repulsed all the attacks, penetrated all that presented itself, and covered the field of battle with dead. Disorder increased in the enemy's army, and it was with admiration seen what a small number of men can do against a multitude whose *morale* is weakened.

“ At two in the afternoon, the Prussian column of General Kleist, cut off in his retreat debouched by Peterswalde to endeavour to penetrate into Bohemia; it met no enemy, arrived upon the

top of the mountains without resistance; it placed itself there, and there saw the affair which was going on. The effect of this column upon the rear of the army decided the business. General Vandamme immediately marched against this column, which he repulsed; he was obliged to weaken his line at this delicate moment. Fortune turned; he nevertheless succeeded in overthrowing General Kliest's column, who was killed: the Prussian soldiers threw away their arms, and precipitated themselves into the fosses and woods. In this strife, General Vandamme disappeared. It is supposed he was killed.

“Generals Carboneau, Dumoncieu, and Philippon, determined to profit of the moment, to withdraw, part by the great road and part by the cross-road with their divisions, by abandoning all the *materiale*: which consisted of thirty pieces of artillery, and 300 waggons of all kinds, but bringing away all the horses.

“In the situation in which affairs were, they could not have acted better. The killed, wounded, and prisoners, may carry our loss in this affair to 6,000 men. It is thought that the enemy's loss cannot be less than from 4 to 5,000 men.

“ The first corps rallied half a league from the field of battle, on the 14th corps. A list of the losses of this catastrophe, owing to a warlike ardour badly calculated, was made out. General Vandamme merits regret; he possessed a rare intrepidity: he died upon the field of battle—a death worthy of envy to every brave man.”

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#### FIFTH BULLETIN

*Paris, Sept. 8, 1813.*

Her Majesty the Empress and Queen has received the following intelligence from the army, dated September 2d :

“ On the 21st of August, the Russian, Prussian and Austrian army, commanded by the Emperor Alexander, and the King of Prussia, entered Saxony, and on the 22d marched against Dresden with from 180 to 200,000 men, having an immense *materiale*, and full of hope, not only of driving us from the right bank of the Elbe, but even of marching upon the Rhine, and nourishing the war between the Elbe and the Rhine. In five days it has seen its hopes confounded; 30,000 prisoners, 10,000 wounded fallen into our power, which makes the number amount to 40,000; 20,000 killed or wounded, and as many sick in

consequence of fatigue, and the want of provisions, (it has been five or six days without bread) have weakened it nearly 80,000 men. It does not now amount to 100,000 men under arms; it has lost more than 100 pieces of cannon, entire parks, 1500 ammunition and artillery waggons, which were blown up, or fell into our hands; more than 3000 baggage waggons, which it has burnt, or we have taken; there were also taken forty colours or standards. Among the prisoners there are 4000 Russians. The ardour of the French army, and the courage of the infantry, fixed every one's attention. The first cannon fired from the batteries of the imperial guards, on the day of the 27th, mortally wounded General Moreau, who had returned from America to enter the Russian service."

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SIXTH BULLETIN.

*Paris, September 15, 1813.*

Her Majesty the Empress, Queen and Regent has received the following intelligence from the army, dated September 6, in the evening:

"On the 2d of September, the Emperor reviewed the 1st corps in Dresden, and conferred the

command of it on Count Lobau. This corps is composed of the divisions of Dumonceau, Philippou, and Teste. This corps has lost less than was at first supposed, many men having re-entered.

“General Vandamme was not killed; he was made prisoner. The engineer General Haxo, who had been sent on a mission to General Vandamme, being with him at that moment, was also taken prisoner. The élite of the Russian guards were killed in this affair.

“On the 3d, the Emperor slept at the castle of Harta, upon the Silesian road; and on the 4th, at the village of Hochkush, (on the other side of Bautzen): since his Majesty's departure from Loewenberg, important events had taken place in Silesia.

“The Duke of Tarentum, to whom the Emperor had left the command of the army in Silesia, made good dispositions for pursuing the allies, and driving them from Jauer: the enemy was driven from all his positions; his columns were in full retreat; on the 26th, the Duke of Tarentum had taken all his measures to turn him; but in the night between the 26th and 27th, the Bober, and all the streams which flow into it,



overflowed: in less than from seven to eight hours the roads were covered with from three to four feet water, and all the bridges carried away. Our columns found themselves separated: those which were to have turned the enemy were not able to arrive.

“The allies quickly perceived this change of circumstances.

“The Duke of Tarentum employed the 28th and 29th in connecting his columns, separated by the inundation. They succeeded in regaining Buntzlau, where the only bridge was that had not been carried away by the waters of the Rober: but a brigade of General Pulhod's division was not able to arrive there. In place of endeavouring to throw himself upon the sides of the mountains, the General wished to return upon Loewenberg. There finding himself surrounded by enemies, and the river behind him, after having defended himself with all his means, he was obliged to give way to numbers.

“All those in the two regiments who could swim saved themselves. We reckon of them from 7 to 800, the remainder were taken.

“The enemy has taken from us, in these dis-

ferent affairs, from 8 to 1000 prisoners, and the two eagles of the two regiments, and the cannon belonging to the brigade.

“ After these circumstances, which had fatigued the army, it successively repassed the Bober, the Queisse, and the Neisse.

“ The Emperor found it on the 4th upon the heights of Hochkush. He made it the same evening to re-attack the enemy, drive him from the heights of Wohlenberg, and pursued him during the whole day of the 5th, *l'épée dans les reins*, to Goerlitz. General Sebastiani executed several charges of cavalry at Reichenbach, and made some prisoners.

“ The enemy hastily repassed the Neisse and the Queisse, and our troops took a position upon the heights of Goerlitz, beyond the Neisse.

“ On the 6th and 7th, in the evening, the Emperor returned to Dresden.

“ The council of war of the 3d corps d'armée has condemned to the pain of death, the General of Brigade Jomini, chief of the staff of that corps, who, from the head quarters at Leignitz, de-

serted to the enemy at the moment of the rupture of the armistice."

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### SEVENTH BULLETIN.

*Paris, Sept. 19, 1813.*

Her Majesty the Empress and Queen has received the following intelligence from the army, of the 11th of September :

"The enemy's grand army, beaten at Dresden, took refuge in Bohemia. Informed that the Emperor had gone to Silesia, the allies assembled a corps of 80,000 men, composed of Russians, Prussians, and Austrians, and on the 5th marched upon Hollendorf, the 6th upon Gieshubel, and the 7th on Pirna.

"On the 8th at noon, the Emperor proceeded to Dohna, ordered Marshal St. Cyr. to attack the enemy's advanced guard, which was driven by General Bonnet from the heights of Dohna. During the night, the French were upon the camp of Pirna.

"On the 9th, the French army marched upon

**Borna and Furstenwalde. The Emperor's headquarters were at Liebstadt.**

**"On the 10th, Marshal St. Cyr marched from the village of Furstenwalde upon the Geyersberg, which commands the Bohemian plain. General Bonnet, with the 43d division, descended into the plain near Toeplitz. The enemy's army, which endeavoured to rally, after having called all its detachments from Saxony, was seen. If the debouche from the Geyersberg had been practicable for artillery, that army would have been attacked in flank during its march; but all the efforts made to get the cannon down were ineffectual.**

**"General Ornano debouched upon the heights of Peterswalde, whilst General Dumoncieu arrived here by Hollendorf. We have made some hundreds of prisoners, of which several are officers. The enemy constantly avoided battle, and precipitately retired in all directions.**

**"On the 11th the Emperor returned to Dresden."**

## EIGHTH BULLETIN.

*Paris, Sept. 19, 1813.*

Her Majesty the Empress Queen and Regent has received the following intelligence from the army, dated the 7th of September :

“ The Duke of Reggio, with the 12th, 7th, and 4th corps, marched on the 23d of August upon Berlin. He ordered the village of Trebbin, defended by the enemy's army, to be attacked, and forced it; he continued his movement.

“ On the 24th of August, the 7th corps not having succeeded in the battle of Gross-Beren, the Duke of Reggio marched upon Wittenberg.

“ On the 3d of September, the Prince of Moskwa took the command of the army, and marched upon Insterburg. On the 5th he attacked and defeated General Tauentzien; but on the 6th he was attacked on his march by General Bulow. Some charges of cavalry on his rear threw disorder among his parks. He was obliged to retire upon Torgau. He lost 8000 men killed, wounded, or prisoners, and twelve pieces of cannon. The enemy's loss must also have been very great.”

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*Report from the Prince of Moskwa.*

Sire,

“ The 12th corps d’armée attacked the enemy on the 5th, and drove him with great vigour beyond Seyda; we took three flags, several pieces of cannon, and some hundreds of Prussian prisoners; the field of battle was covered with the enemy’s dead.

“ The following day, the 6th, the 4th corps debouched at eight in the morning by Neuendorf and Juterboch: the enemy held the heights in the rear of Dennewitz. The 7th corps marched upon Rohrbeck, and the 12th upon Ohna; I thus refused my left, and was in a condition to support the 4th corps, which, in place of attacking, was to turn Juterboch by its right, to mask the movement which I wished to make upon Dahma, and upon which I had determined by the certainty that the whole of the enemy’s army was debouching in great haste upon Dennewitz. The enemy’s advanced guard was overthrown by General Morand’s division, which performed prodigies of valour. General Lorge’s division of light cavalry indiscreetly engaged (*mal engagée*), and brought back in disorder, caused some confusion, which the good counte-

nance of the infantry soon corrected. The enemy being rapidly reinforced, the whole of the 4th corps found itself engaged. The 7th, which had been expected, at last arrived; and I ordered General Regnier to briskly charge the enemy's right, whilst General Morand should renew his attack. This general charge had much success; the enemy had just lost much ground. Darutte's division conducted itself well: sixty pieces of artillery fired grape-shot upon the enemy's troops, who were in disorder in the hollow ground, between Golsdorf and Wilmersdorf; in short, the 12th corps, which entered briskly into action, drove the enemy's right upon his centre, separated from his left by the 4th corps. At this moment the battle was gained; but two divisions of the 7th corps failed, and the whole of that corps suddenly falling back, carrying part of the 12th with it, changed the state of things.

“The enemy succeeded in throwing his masses between the 4th and 12th corps, which still fought with the greatest fury. I insensibly brought the 4th from the right of the 12th. The artillery, from the position placed upon the heights between the Ohna and Dennewitz, filled the interval; and I then ordered a retreat. The 4th corps effected it in good order upon Dahma, and the 7th and 12th marched upon Schweinitz.

“ This morning the enemy, in number from 3 to 4000 infantry, with cannon, and 120 horse, coming from Luckau, vehemently attacked Dahma. The 23d regiment of the line marched against him, and forced him to precipitately retire. The bridge of Herzberg, upon the Elbe, has been burnt. We have preserved two others, one above, and one below that town. Tomorrow, the 4th corps, with a division of light cavalry, will proceed from Herzberg to Torgau. The 7th and 12th corps, and two other divisions of cavalry, will occupy positions upon Torgau.

“ The loss suffered yesterday is about 8000 men, and twelve pieces of cannon : that of the enemy must have been as considerable, the artillery of the different corps having consumed a great part of their ammunition. We had many prisoners in our power, but they disappeared during the night march.

“ I am, with the most profound respect, Sire, your Majesty’s very obedient and very humble servant and faithful subject.”

(Signed) The Prince of MOSKWA.  
Torgau, Sept. 7, 1813.

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## NINTH BULLETIN.

*Paris, Sept. 24, 1813.*

Her Majesty the Empress Queen and Regent has received the following intelligence from the army, dated the 13th of September, 1813:—

“ The Emperor’s head quarters were at Dresden.

“ The Duke of Tarentum, with the 5th, 11th, and 3d corps, was placed upon the left bank of the Spree. Prince Poniatowski, with the 8th corps, was at Stolpen. All these forces were thus concentrated upon the right bank of the Elbe, within a day’s march of Dresden.

“ Count de Lobau, with the 1st corps, was at Nollendorf, in advance of Peterswalde; the Duke of Treviso, at Pirna; Marshal St. Cyr, upon the heights of Borna, occupying the debouches from Furstenwalde and Geyersberg; the Duke of Belluno, at Altenberg.

“ The Prince of Moskwa was at Torgau, with the 4th, 7th, and 12th corps.

“ The Duke of Ragusa and the King of Na-

ples, with General Latour Maubourg's cavalry, were marching upon Grossen-Hayn.

“ The Prince of Eckmuhl was at Ratzeburg.

“ The enemy's army of Silesia was upon the right of the Spree. That of Bohemia, the Russians and Prussians, in the plain of Toeplitz, and an Austrian corps at Marienburg. The enemy's army of Berlin was at Juterboch.

“ The French General Margeron, with a corps of observation, occupied Leipzig.

“ The castle of Sonnenstein, above Pirna, had been occupied, fortified and armed.

“ His Majesty had given the command of Torgau to Count de Narbonne.

“ The four regiments of guards of honour were attached,—the first, to the mountain chasseurs of the guard; the second, to the dragoons; the third, to the horse grenadiers; and the fourth, to the first regiment of lancers. Those regiments of the guards will furnish them with instructors; and whenever they march to battle, be joined to old soldiers, by whom they will be guided, and whose skeletons they will reinforce. A squadron

of each regiment of guards of honour will always perform the duty about the Emperor, with a squadron furnished by each regiment of the guards; which will carry the number of squadrons on duty to eight."

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#### TENTH BULLETIN.

*Paris, Sept. 25, 1813.*

Her Majesty the Empress and Queen has received the following intelligence from the army, of the 17th of September, 1813.

"On the 14th the enemy debouched from Toeplitz upon Nollendorf, to turn the division Dumoncieu, which was upon the height. This division retired in good order upon Gushabel, where Count de Lobau collected his corps. The enemy having wished to attack the camp of Gushabel, was repulsed, and lost many men.

"On the 15th the Emperor left Dresden, and marched to the camp at Pirna. He directed General Monton Duvernet, commander of the 42d division, by the villages of Langenhenersdorf and Bera, thus turning the enemy's right. At the same time Count de Lobau attacked him

in front: the enemy was led *l'épée dans les reins*, all the rest of the day.

“ On the 16th the enemy still occupied the heights beyond Peterswalde. At noon we began to pursue him, and he was dislodged from his position. General Ornano made some fine charges with the divisions of cavalry of the guard, and Prince Poniatowski's Polish light horse. The enemy was driven back into Bohemia in the greatest disorder. He made his retreat with so much activity, that we were only able to take some prisoners from him, among whom is General Blucher, who commanded the advanced guard, and son of the Prussian General-in-Chief Blucher.

“ Our loss was trifling. The Emperor slept at Peterswalde on the 16th, and on the 17th returned to Pirna.

“ Thielmann, a General who deserted from the Saxon service, with a corps of partisans and deserters, has marched upon Saal. An Austrian colonel has also, as a partisan, marched upon Colditz. Generals Margeron, Lefevre Desnouettes, and Piré, are gone with columns of cavalry and infantry in pursuit of these parties, hoping to give a good account of them.”

## ELEVENTH BULLETIN.

*Paris, Sept. 26, 1813.*

Her Majesty the Empress Queen and Regent has received the following intelligence from the army, dated September 19:—

“ On the 17th, at two o'clock in the afternoon, the Emperor mounted on horseback, and in place of going to Pirna proceeded to the advanced posts. Having perceived the enemy had prepared a great quantity of fascines (*abattis*) to defend the descent from the mountain, his Majesty ordered him to be attacked by General Duvernet, who, with the 42d division, seized upon the village of Arbesan, and drove the enemy into the plain of Toeplitz.

“ He was charged with manœuvring in such a manner as to thoroughly reconnoitre the enemy's position, and oblige him to unmask his forces. This general perfectly succeeded in executing his instructions. He engaged in a brisk cannonade without cannon-shot, and which did little injury; but an Austrian battery of twenty-four pieces having left its position to approach Duvernet's division, General Ornano ordered it to be charged by the red lancers of the guard: they

took these twenty-four pieces, and sabred all the artillerymen, but were only able to bring off the horses, two pieces of cannon, and an advanced train (*avant-train*.)

“ On the 18th Count de Lobau remained in the same position, occupying the village of Arbesan, and all the debouches from the plain. At four o'clock in the afternoon, the enemy sent a division to surprise the height above the village of Keinitz. This division was repulsed *l'épée dans les reins*, and fired at with grape-shot during an hour.

“ On the 18th, at nine in the evening, his Majesty arrived at Pirna: and on the 19th Count de Lobau again resumed his positions before Hollensdorf, and the camp of Gushabel.

“ The rain fell in torrents.

“ The Prince of Neuffchatel is a little indisposed by an access of fever.

“ His Majesty is very well.”

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## TWELFTH BULLETIN.

*Paris, October 1, 1813.*

Her Majesty the Empress Queen and Regent has received the following intelligence from the army, dated Sept. 26:—

“The Emperor passed the days of the 19th and 20th at Pirna. His Majesty ordered a bridge to be thrown across there, and a *tête du pont* to be established on the right bank.

“On the 21st the Emperor came to sleep at Dresden, and on the 22d went to Hartaw. He immediately ordered to debouche beyond the forest of Bischoffwerder the 11th corps, commanded by the Duke of Tarentum; the 5th corps, commanded by General Lauriston; and the 3d corps, commanded by General Souham. The enemy's army of Silesia, which had marched, the right, commanded by Sacken, upon Camenz; the left, commanded by Langeron, upon Neustadt, to the debouches of Bohemia; and the centre, commanded by York, upon Bischoffwerder, instantly retreated on all sides. General Girard, commanding our advanced guard, briskly followed it, and made some prisoners.

“ The enemy was led fighting to the Spree. General Lauriston entered Neustadt.

“ The enemy thus refusing battle, the Emperor returned on the 24th to Dresden, and ordered the Duke of Tarentum to take a position upon the heights of Weissig.

“ The 8th corps, commanded by Prince Poniatowski, has repassed upon the left bank.

“ Count de Lobau, with the 1st corps, still occupies Gussabel.

“ Marshal St. Cyr occupies Pirna, and the position of Dohna. The Duke of Belluno occupies the position of Freyberg.

“ The Duke of Ragusa, with the 6th corps, and General Latour Maubourg's cavalry, was beyond Grossenhayn : he had repulsed the enemy upon the right bank, beyond Torgau, to facilitate the passage of a convoy of 20,000 quintals of meal, which was going up the Elbe in boats, and which has arrived at Dresden.

“ The Duke of Padua is at Leipzig ; the Prince of Moskwa between Wittenberg and Torgau.



“General Count Lefebvre Desnouettes was, with 4,000 horse, in pursuit of the traitor Thielmann. This Thielmann is a Saxon, and loaded with favours by the King. As a return for so many benefits, he has shewn himself the most irreconcilable enemy to his King, and to his country. At the head of 3,000 horse, partly Prussians, partly Cossacks and Austrians, he has plundered the King's stud, every where levied contributions for his own profit, and treated his countrymen with all the hatred of a man tormented by guilt. This deserter, decorated with the uniform of a Russian Lieutenant-General, marched to Naumberg, where there neither was commandant nor garrison, but where he surprised 300 or 400 sick.

“However, General Lefebvre Desnouettes met him on the 19th at Freyberg, took from him the 300 or 400 sick, which that wretch had torn from ~~his~~ <sup>their</sup> beds, to make a trophy of them, made some hundreds of prisoners, took some baggage, and retook some carriages which he had seized. Thielmann then took refuge upon Zeitz, where Colonel Munsdorf, an Austrian partisan, joined him. General Lefebvre Desnouettes attacked them on the 24th, at Altenburg, killed them many men, among others a Prince of Hohenzollern, and a colonel.

"Thielmann's march had caused some delays in the communications from Erfurth and Leipzig.

"The enemy's army of Berlin appears to be making preparations for throwing over a bridge at Dessau.

"The Prince of Neuchâtel is unwell of a bilious fever; he has some days kept his bed. His Majesty was never better."

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#### THIRTEENTH BULLETIN.

*Paris, October 5, 1813.*

Her Majesty the Empress Queen and Regent has received the following intelligence of the situation of the armies on the 29th of September:—

"The Emperor has given the command of one of the corps of the young guard to the Duke of Reggio. The Duke of Castiglione has put himself in march with his corps, to take a position upon the debouches of the Saale. Prince Poniatowski has marched with his corps upon Peneg. General Count Bertrand, on the 26th, attacked the enemy's corps d'armée of Berlin, which

covered the bridge thrown over at Wartenburg, forced it, took some prisoners, and drove it fighting to the *tête du pont*. The enemy evacuated the left bank, and destroyed his bridge. General Bertrand immediately caused the *tête du pont* to be destroyed. The Prince of Moskwa marched upon Oranienbaum, and the 7th corps upon Dessau. A Swedish division, which was at Dessau, hastened to repass upon the right bank. The enemy was likewise obliged to destroy his bridge, and the *tête du pont* has been razed. The enemy has thrown some shells into Wittenberg, from the right bank.

“ On the 28th, the Emperor reviewed the 2d corps of cavalry, upon the heights of Weissig.

“ The month of September has been very bad, very wet, contrary to what is usual in this country. It is expected that the month of October will be better.

“ The Prince of Neuffchatel's bilious fever has ceased; the Prince is convalescent.”

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## FOURTEENTH BULLETIN.

*Paris, October 30, 1813.*

Her Majesty the Empress Queen and Regent has received the following intelligence of the situation of the armies on the 4th of October :

“ General Count Lefevre Desnouettes was attacked on the 28th of September, at seven o'clock in the morning, at Altenberg, by 10,000 cavalry and 3000 infantry. He effected his retreat before so superior forces ; he made some fine charges, and did the enemy much injury : he lost 300 of his infantry ; he arrived upon the Saale. The enemy was commanded by the Hetnan Platoff and General Thielman. Prince Poniatowski marched on the 2d upon Altenberg ; by Nossen, Waldheim, and Colditz ; he overthrew the enemy, took more than 400 prisoners, and drove him into Bohemia.

“ On the 27th, the Prince of Moskwa took possession of Dessau, which a Swedish division occupied, and drove that division back upon the tête de pont. On the following day the Swedes arrived to retake the town. General Guilleminot allowed them to advance till within

grape shot, then unmasked his batteries, and repulsed them with considerable loss.

“ On the 3d of October, the enemy’s army of Silesia marched by Königsbruck and Elsterwerda upon the Elster, threw over a bridge at the bend, which the Elbe forms at Wartenberg, and passed that river. General Bertrand was placed on an isthmus, in a fine position, surrounded by banks and marshes. Between nine o’clock in the morning and five in the evening, the enemy made seven attacks, and was always repulsed: he left 6000 dead upon the field of battle; our loss was 500 killed or wounded. This great difference was owing to the good position which Morand and Fontinelli’s divisions occupied. In the evening, General Bertrand seeing new forces debouche, thought proper to effect his retreat, and took a position upon the Mulda with the Prince of Moskwa.

“ On the 4th, the Prince of Moskwa was at Dalitzch, upon the left bank of the Mulda. The Duke of Ragusa and General Latour Maubourg’s corps of cavalry were at Eulenburg. The 3d corps was at Torgau. Two hundred and fifty partizans, commanded by a Russian Major-general, had marched upon Mulhausen,

and learning that Cassel was without troops, they attempted a surprise upon the gates of Cassel: they were repulsed, but the following day, the Westphalian troops having disbanded themselves, the partisans entered Cassel. They gave up to pillage every thing which fell into their hands, and a few days after left it. The King of Westphalia had retired upon the Rhine."

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FIFTEENTH BULLETIN.

*Paris, October 31, 1813.*

Her Majesty the Empress Queen and Regent has received the following intelligence of the situation of the armies on the 15th October:—

"On the 7th the Emperor left Dresden; on the 8th he slept at Wurtzen, the 9th at Eulenburg, and on the 10th at Duben.

"The enemy's army of Silesia, which had marched upon Wurtzen, immediately retreated, and repassed to the left bank of the Mulda: it had some engagements, in which we made some prisoners, and took several hundreds of baggage waggons.

“ General Regnier had marched upon Wittenberg, and having passed the Elbe, marched upon Roslau, turned the bridge of Dessau, seized upon it, afterwards marched upon Aken, and took possession of the bridge. General Bertrand marched upon the bridges of Wartenburg, and seized upon them. The Prince of Moskwa marched upon the town of Dessau; he met a Russian division: General Dulmas overthrew it, and took 3000 men and six pieces of cannon. Several cabinet couriers, among others, *Sieur Kraft*, with dispatches of high importance, were taken.

“ After having thus obtained possession of all the enemy's bridges, the Emperor's intention was to pass the Elbe, to manœuvre upon the right bank from Hamburg to Dresden; to threaten Potzdam and Berlin, and to take for the centre of operations Magdeburg, which, for this purpose, had been supplied with warlike stores and provisions. But on the 15th, the Emperor learned at Duben, that the Bavarian army had joined the Austrian army, and threatened the Lower Rhine. This inconceivable defection made the defection of other Princes be foreseen, and induced the Emperor to come to the resolution of returning towards the Rhine—a painful change, as every thing had been prepared to

operate upon Magdeburg; but it would have been requisite to have remained separated and without communication with France for a month. This would not have been inconvenient at the moment when the Emperor fixed his plans; but the case was no longer the same, when Austria was about to have two new disposable armies, the Bavarian army, and the army opposed to Bavaria. The Emperor, therefore, changed his plans with these unforeseen circumstances, and removed his head-quarters to Leipzig.

“ Meanwhile the King of Naples, who remained in observation at Freyberg, received orders on the 7th to make a change of front, and march upon Genig and Freyberg, operating upon Wurtzen and Wittenberg. An Austrian division, which occupied Augustusburg, rendering this movement difficult, the King received orders to attack it: he defeated it, took several battalions, and afterwards effected his movement to the right. Meanwhile, the right of the enemy's army of Bohemia, composed of Witgenstein's Russian corps, had marched upon Altenberg, upon intelligence of the King of Naples' change of front. It marched upon Freyberg, and afterwards by the left on Bornä; placing itself between the King of Naples and Leipzig. The King did not hesitate respecting the manœuvre



he ought to make; he faced about and marched upon the enemy, overthrew him, took nine pieces of cannon, 1000 prisoners, and drove him beyond the Elster, after having made him experience a loss of from 4 to 5000 men.

“ On the 15th, the position of the army was as follows: The Emperor's head quarters were at Reidnitz, half a league from Leipzig; the 4th corps, commanded by General Bertrand, was at the village of Lindenau; the 6th corps was at Libenthal; the King of Naples, with the 2d, 8th, and 5th corps, had his right at Doelitz, and his left at Liber Volkowitz; the 3d and 7th were in march from Eulenburg to flank the 6th corps.

“ The grand Austrian army of Bohemia had Guilay's corps opposite Lindenau, a corps at Zwenckaw, and the remainder of the army, with the left leaning on Grobern, and the right on Naumsdorff. The bridges of Wurtzen and Eulenberg, upon the Mulda, and the position of Wachau, upon the Partha, were occupied by our troops. Every thing announced a great battle.

“ The result of our different movements in these six days has been 5000 prisoners, several pieces of cannon, and doing much injury to the

enemy. Prince Poniatowski has, in these circumstances, covered himself with glory."

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#### SIXTEENTH BULLETIN.

### BATTLE OF WACHAU.

*Paris, Nov. 1, 1813.*

Her Majesty the Empress Queen and Regent has received the following intelligence respecting the situation of the armies on the evening of the 16th of October :

" On the 15th, Prince Schwartzenberg, commanding the enemy's army, announced in daily orders, that the following day, the 16th, there would be a general and decisive battle. Accordingly, on the 16th, at nine in the morning, the grand allied army debouched upon us; it constantly operated, to extend itself upon its right. At first, three large columns were seen marching, one along the river Elster, against the village of Doelitz; the second against the village of Wachau, and the 3d against that of Liber Volkowitz. These three columns were preceded by 200 pieces of cannon. The Emperor immediately made his dispositions.

" At ten o'clock the cannonade was most violent, and at eleven the two armies were engaged

in the villages of Doelitz, Wachau, and Liber Volkowitz. These villages were attacked six or seven times; the enemy was constantly repulsed, and covered the approaches with his dead. Count Lauriston, with the 5th corps, defended the village on the left (Liber Volkowitz); Prince Poniatowski, with his brave Poles, defended the village on the right (Doelitz); and the Duke of Belluno defended Wachau.

“ At noon, the sixth attack of the enemy had been repulsed; we were masters of the three villages, and had made 2000 prisoners. Nearly, at the same moment, the Duke of Tarentum debouched by Holhausen, marching upon an enemy's redoubt, which General Charpentier carried at the *pas de charge*, seizing the artillery, and making some prisoners.

“ The moment appeared decisive. The Emperor ordered the Duke of Reggio to march upon Wachau with two divisions of the young guard. He equally directed the Duke of Treviso to march against Liber Volkowitz, with two other divisions of the young guard, and to take possession of an extensive wood which is upon the left of the village. At the same time, he caused to be advanced upon the centre a battery of 150 pieces of cannon, which General Drouet directed. The whole of those dispositions had

that success which was expected from them. The enemy's artillery went to a distance. The enemy retired, and the whole field of battle remained in our possession.

“ It was three o'clock in the afternoon, all the enemy's troops had been engaged; he had recourse to his reserve. Count Merfeldt, who commanded in chief the Austrian reserve, supported with six divisions all the troops in all the attacks; and the Imperial Russian guards, who formed the reserve of the Austrian army, supported the centre. The cavalry of the Russian guards and the Austrian cuirassiers precipitated themselves by their left upon our right; they seized upon Doelitz, and came prancing about the Duke of Belluno's squares. The King of Naples marched with Latour Maubourg's cuirassiers, and charged the enemy's cavalry by the left of Wachau, at the time the Polish cavalry and dragoons of the guard, commanded by General Letort, charged by the right. The enemy's cavalry were defeated, two entire regiments remained upon the field of battle. General Letort made 300 Austrian and Russian prisoners. General Latour Maubourg took some hundreds of men of the Russian guard.

“ The Emperor immediately ordered Curial's

division of the guard to advance, to support Prince Poniatowski. General Curial marched upon the village of Doelitz, attacked it with the bayonet, carried it without firing a shot, and made 1200 prisoners, among whom was the General-in-chief, Merfeldt.

“ Affairs being thus re-established on our right, the enemy put himself in retreat, and the field of battle was no longer disputed with us. The reserve artillery of the guards, which General Drouet commanded, were with the tirailleurs; the enemy's cavalry came and charged them. The artillerymen formed their pieces in a square, which they had the precaution to load with grape shot, and fired with so much dexterity, that in an instant the enemy was repulsed. Upon these events, the French cavalry advanced to support these batteries.

“ General Maison, commanding a division of the 5th corps, an officer of the greatest distinction, was wounded. General Latour Maubourg, commanding the cavalry, had his thigh carried off by a ball. Our loss on this day has been 2500 men killed and wounded. It will not be exaggerating, to estimate that of the enemy at 25,000 men. One cannot too much eulogize General Lauriston and Prince Poniatowski's good

conduct during this day. To give the latter a proof of his satisfaction, the Emperor appointed him, on the field of battle, a French Marshal, and granted a great number of decorations to the regiments of his corps.

“ General Bertrand was at the same time attacked in the village of Lindenau by Generals Guilay, Thielman, and Lichtenstein. They deployed from different parts about fifty pieces of cannon. The combat lasted six hours, without the enemy being able to gain an inch of ground. At five in the evening, General Bertrand decided the victory, by making a charge with his reserve; and not only rendered vain the enemy's designs, who rushed to seize upon the bridges of Lindenau and the suburbs of Leipzig, but even constrained him to evacuate his field of battle.

“ Upon the right of the Partha, a league from Leipzig, and nearly four leagues from the field of battle where the Emperor was, the Duke of Ragusa was engaged. By one of those fatal circumstances, which often have an influence over the most important affairs, the 3d corps, which was to support the Duke of Ragusa, hearing nothing on that side at ten in the morning, and, on the contrary, hearing a terrible cannonade on that side where the Emperor was,

thought proper to march thither, and thus lost the day in marches.

“The Duke of Ragusa, abandoned to his own forces, defended Leipzig, and maintained his position during the day; but he suffered losses which were not compensated by those he inflicted upon the enemy, however great they were. Some battalions of marine artillerymen conducted themselves but indifferently. Generals Compans and Frederich were wounded. In the evening the Duke of Ragusa, himself slightly wounded, was obliged to contract his position upon the Partha. He was obliged to abandon in this movement several dismounted cannon and several waggons.”

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#### SEVENTEENTH BULLETIN.

### BATTLES OF LEIPZIG.

*Paris, Nov. 3, 1813.*

Her Majesty the Empress, Queen and Regent has received the following intelligence respecting the situation of the armies on the 24th October:

“The battle of Wachau disconcerted all the enemy's projects; but his army was so numerous that he had still resources. He hastily called in, during the night, the corps which he had left

upon his line of operations, and the divisions which remained upon the Saale, and he pressed the march of General Bennigsen, who was coming up with 40,000 men.

“ After the movement in retreat, which he made on the 16th in the evening, and during the night, the enemy occupied a fine position two leagues in the rear. It was requisite to employ the 17th in reconnoitering and fully determining upon the point of attack. That day was, besides, necessary to allow the parks of reserve to arrive, and replace the 80,000 cannon balls which had been expended in the battle. The enemy had, therefore, time to re-assemble his troops which he had scattered, when he delivered himself up to his chimerical projects, and to receive the reinforcements which he expected.

“ Having received information of the arrival of these reinforcements, and knowing that the position of the enemy was very strong, the Emperor resolved to draw them upon another ground. The 18th, at two o'clock in the morning, he approached Leipzig within two leagues, and formed his army with the right at Connewitz, his centre at Probstheyde ; and the left at Stoetteritz ; placing himself at the mill of Ta. The Prince of the Moskwa, on his part, had placed



his troops in front of the army of Silesia, on the Partha; the 6th corps at Schoenfeld, and the 3d and 7th along the Partha, at Neutsch and at Teckla. The Duke of Padua, with General Dombrowski, guarded the position and the suburbs of Leipzig, on the road of Halle. At three o'clock in the morning, the Emperor was at the village of Lindenau, and ordered General Bertrand to march on Lutzer and Weissenfels, to sweep the plain, and secure the debouches of the Saale and the line of communication with Erfurt. The light troops of the enemy dispersed, and at noon General Bertrand was master of Weissenfels and the bridge on the Saale. Having thus secured his communications, the Emperor waited the approach of the enemy with firmness. At nine o'clock the scouts announced that they were marching on all the line. At ten o'clock the cannonade commenced. Prince Poniatowski and General Lesol defended the bridge of Connewitz. The King of Naples, with the 2d corps, was at Probstheyde, and the Duke of Tarentum at Holzhausen. All the efforts of the enemy, during the day, against Connewitz and Probstheyde, failed. The Duke of Tarentum was outflanked at Holzhausen. The Emperor ordered him to take a position at the village of Stoetteritz; the cannonade was terrible. The Duke of Castiglione, who defended a

wood in the centre, maintained himself there the whole of the day. The old guard was drawn up in reserve, on a rising ground, in four massy columns, directed towards the four principal points of attack. The Duke of Reggio was sent to support Prince Pomiatowski, and the Duke of Treviso, to guard the debouches of the city of Leipzig. The principal success of the battle was at the village of Probstheyde: the enemy attacked it four times in considerable force, and four times they were repulsed with great loss. At five o'clock in the evening the Emperor caused the artillery of reserve to advance, and drove back the fire of the enemy, who withdrew to the distance of a league from the field of battle.

“ In the mean time, the army of Silesia attacked the suburb of Halle. All its attacks, repeated a number of times during the day, failed. It attempted, with the greater part of its force, to pass the Partha at Schoenfeld and Saint Teckla. Thrice it succeeded in gaining a footing on the left bank; and thrice the Prince of the Moskwa repulsed and overthrew it at the point of the bayonet. At three o'clock P. M. the victory was ours, as well on this side against the army of Silesia, as on the side of the Emperor against the grand army. But at this instant the

Saxon army, infantry, cavalry, and artillery, and the Wirtemberg cavalry, passed over in a body to the enemy. Of the Saxon army there remained only General Zeschau, the Commander in Chief, and 500 men. This act of treason not only caused a vacancy in our lines, but also delivered up to the enemy the important debouche confided to the Saxon army, who carried their infamy so far as instantly to turn their forty pieces of cannon against the division of Durutt. A moment of disorder succeeded; the enemy passed the Partha, and marched upon Reidnitz, which they occupied; they were now therefore only half a league from Leipzig. The Emperor sent his horse-guards, commanded by General Nansouty, with twenty pieces of artillery, to take in flank the troops that were advancing along the Partha to attack Leipzig. He proceeded in person with a division of the guards to the village of Reidnitz. The promptitude of these movements restored order. The village was re-taken, and the enemy driven to a great distance. The field of battle remained entirely in our power, and the French army remained victorious in the fields of Leipzig as they had in those of Wachau. At night-fall the fire of our cannon had, at all points, repulsed that of the enemy to the distance of a league from the field of battle. The Generals of Division, Vial and

Rochambeau, fell gloriously. Our loss on this day may be estimated at 4000 men killed and wounded; that of the enemy must have been considerable in the extreme. They took no prisoners from us, and we took from them 500 men.

“ At six in the evening, the Emperor ordered his dispositions for the following day. But, at seven o'clock, Generals Sorbier and Dulauloy, commanding the artillery of the army and of the guards, came to his bivouac to inform him of the expenditure of the day; 95,000 cannon-balls had been fired. They informed him that the ammunition in reserve was exhausted, and that there remained only 16,000 cannon-balls; that this would scarcely suffice for a cannonade of two hours, after which no ammunition would remain for ulterior events; that the army had in five days fired upwards of 220,000 cannon-balls, and that a further supply could only be furnished at Magdeburg or Erfurt. This state of things rendered necessary a prompt movement upon one of our two largest depôts. The Emperor decided for that of Erfurt, for the same reason which induced him to come to Leipzig, to enable him to appreciate the defection of Bavaria.

“ The Emperor immediately gave orders that

the baggage, the parks, and the artillery, should pass the defiles of Lindenau; he gave similar orders with respect to the cavalry, and the different corps of the army, and then repaired to the Prussian hotel, in the suburbs of Leipzig, where he arrived at nine o'clock in the evening. This circumstance obliged the French army to renounce the fruits of the two victories in which they had, with so much glory, beaten troops greatly superior in numbers, and the armies of the whole Continent. But this movement was not without difficulty. From Leipzig to Lindenau there is a defile of two leagues, with from five to six bridges on the road. It was proposed to place 6000 men and 60 pieces of cannon in Leipzig, which is a walled town; to occupy that town as a *tête de defile*, to burn its vast suburbs in order to prevent the enemy from effecting a lodgment therein, and to give full scope for our artillery on the ramparts to play. However odious the treason of the Saxon army was, the Emperor could not resolve to destroy one of the finest cities in Germany; to deliver it up to the disorders of every kind inseparable from such a defence, and that too under the eyes of the King, who had been pleased to accompany the Emperor from Dresden, and who was so sensibly afflicted by the conduct of his army. The Emperor chose rather to expose himself to the loss

of a few hundred waggons, than to adopt this barbarous measure. At break of day, all the parks, the baggage, the whole of the artillery, the cavalry, the guards, and two-thirds of the army, had already passed the defile. The Duke of Tarentum and Prince Poniatowski were charged to hold the suburbs, and to defend them long enough to allow the whole to debouche, and then to execute, themselves, the passage of the defile towards eleven o'clock. At six o'clock in the morning, the magistrates of Leipzig sent a deputation to the Prince of Schwartzenberg, to beg that he would not make the city the scene of an action that would occasion its ruin. At nine o'clock the Emperor mounted his horse, entered Leipzig, and payed a visit to the King. He left this Prince at full liberty to do as he pleased, and not to quit his dominions, leaving them to be exposed to that seditious spirit which had been fomented amongst the soldiers. A Saxon battalion had been formed at Dresden, and joined the young guards. The Emperor caused it to be drawn up at Leipzig, in front of the King's Palace, to serve him as a guard, and protect him from the first movement of the enemy. Half an hour after, the Emperor repaired to Lindenau, there to await the evacuation of Leipzig, and to see the last troops pass the bridges before putting himself in march.

Meanwhile the enemy was speedily apprised that the greater part of the army had evacuated Leipzig, and that there remained there only a strong rear-guard. They briskly attacked the Duke of Tarentum and Prince Poniatowski; they were repeatedly repulsed, and in the act of defending the suburbs our rear-guard effected its retreat. But the Saxons that had remained in the city fired upon the troops from the ramparts, which obliged them to accelerate their retreat, and occasioned some disorder.

“ The Emperor had ordered the engineers to form fougades under the grand bridge which is between Leipzig and Lindenau, in order to blow it up at the latest moment, and thus to retard the march of the enemy, and to give time for our baggage to file off. General Dulauloy had entrusted this operation to Colonel Montfort. This Colonel, instead of remaining on the spot to direct it, and to give the signal, ordered a corporal and four sappers to blow up the bridge the instant the enemy should appear. The corporal, an ignorant fellow, and but ill comprehending the nature of the duty with which he was charged, upon hearing the first shot discharged from the ramparts of the city, set fire to the fougades and blew up the bridge. A part of the army was still on the other side with a park of eighty pieces

of artillery, and some hundreds of waggons. The advance of this part of the army, who were approaching the bridge, seeing it blow up, conceived it was in the power of the enemy. A cry of dismay spread from rank to rank—'The enemy are close upon our rear, and the bridges are destroyed!' The unfortunate soldiers dispersed, and endeavoured to effect their escape as well as they could. The Duke of Tarentum swam across the river; Count Lauriston, less fortunate, was drowned; Prince Poniatowski, mounted on a spirited horse, darted into the water, and appeared no more. The Emperor was not informed of this disaster until it was too late to remedy it. In fact, no remedy would have been possible. Colonel Montfort, and the corporal of sappers, have been handed over to a Court Martial.

"It is impossible as yet to ascertain the losses occasioned by this unfortunate event, but they are estimated at 12,000 men, and several hundred waggons. The disorder which it has occasioned in the army has changed the state of affairs. *The French army, though victorious, is arriving at Erfurt, as a defeated army would have arrived there.* It is impossible to describe the regret which the army feels for Prince Poniatowski, Count Lauriston, and all the brave men who perished in consequence of this fatal event. We



have no accounts of General Regnier; it is not known whether he is taken or killed. The profound grief of the Emperor may be easily conceived, who sees from inattention to his wide dispositions, the results of so many fatigues and labours completely vanishing!

“ On the 19th the Emperor slept at Markranstadt; the Duke of Reggio remained at Lindenau. On the 20th the Emperor passed the Saale at Weissenfels. On the 21st the army passed the Unstrut at Freyburg; General Bertrand took a position upon the heights of Coesen. On the 22d the Emperor slept at the village of Ollendorf. On the 23d he arrived at Erfurt. The enemy, who had been struck with consternation by the battles of the 16th and 18th, has, from the disaster of the 19th, resumed the courage and ascendancy of victory. The French army, after such brilliant successes, has lost its victorious attitude. We have found at Erfurt provisions, ammunition, clothing, and all that the army stood in need of. The staff will publish the reports of the different chiefs of the army, as to the officers who distinguished themselves in the grand battles of Wachau and Leipzig.”

## EIGHTEENTH BULLETIN.

## BATTLE OF HANAU.

*Paris, November 4, 1813.*

Her Majesty the Empress Queen and Regent has received the following accounts of the situation of the army on the 31st October:—

“ The two regiments of cuirassiers of the king of Saxony, forming part of the 1st corps of cavalry, remained with the French army. When the Emperor quitted Leipzig, he caused the Duke of Vicenza to write them the subjoined letter, and sent them back to Leipzig to serve as the King's guard.

“ When the Bavaria defection was certain, there was still a Bavarian battalion with the army. His Majesty caused the subjoined letter to be written to the commandant of the battalion by the Major-general.

“ The Emperor left Erfurt on the 25th.

“ Our army has operated in tranquillity its movement upon the Mein. Arrived at Gelnhausen, on the 29th, an enemy's corps of 5 or 6000 men, cavalry, infantry, and artillery, was per-

ceived, which we learnt from the prisoners was the advanced guard of the Austrian and Bavarian army. This advanced guard was repulsed and compelled to retire. The bridge which the enemy had cut down was promptly re-established. We also learned from the prisoners, that the Austrian and Bavarian army, from 60 to 70,000 strong, coming from Brannau, had arrived at Hanau, and thought to block up the road of the French army.

“ On the evening of the 29th, the tirailleurs of the enemy’s advanced guard were pushed beyond the village of Langensbolde; and at seven in the evening the Emperor and his head quarters were in that village, at the castle of Issenburg.

“ On the 30th, the Emperor mounted his horse at nine in the morning; the Duke of Tarentum advanced with 5000 tirailleurs under the orders of General Charpentier. The cavalry of Sebastiani, General Friant’s division of the guard, and the cavalry of the old guard followed: the rest of the army was a march behind. The enemy had placed six battalions at the villiage of Ruckingen, in order to intercept all the roads leading to the Rhine. Some cannon-shot and a charge of cavalry made these battalions retire with precipitation. Arrived at the skirt of a wood two leagues

from Hanau, the tirailleurs soon engaged. The enemy was forced into the wood to the point of junction between the old and new road. Not being able to oppose the superiority of our infantry, he endeavoured to avail himself of his great numbers; he extended his fire on his right. A brigade of 2000 tirailleurs of the 2d corps, commanded by General Dubreton, was employed to check him; and General Sebastiani caused to be executed with success, in the open part of the wood, several charges on the enemy's tirailleurs. Our 5000 tirailleurs thus kept at bay the whole enemy's army, gaining time insensibly till three in the afternoon.

“ The artillery having arrived, the Emperor ordered General Curial to advance at the *pas de charge* upon the enemy with two battalions of chasseurs, and drive him beyond the defile; General Drouet to debouche on the plain with 50 pieces of cannon; Nansouty with all Sebastiani's corps and the cavalry of the old guard, to charge vigorously the enemy in the plain.

“ All these dispositions were exactly executed. —Curial overthrew several battalions. At the mere sight of the old guard, the Austrians and Bavarians were terrified. From fifteen to fifty pieces of cannon were successively placed in

battery, with the activity and coolness which distinguish Drouet. General Nansouty advanced on the right of these batteries, and caused 10,000 of the enemy's cavalry to be charged by General Leveque, Major of the old Guard, by the St. Germain division of cuirassiers, and successively by the grenadiers and dragoons of the guards. All these charges had a fortunate result. The enemy's cavalry were overthrown and sabred; many squares of infantry were broken; the Austrian regiment Jordis, and the Hulus of Prince Schwartzenberg, were entirely destroyed. The enemy precipitately abandoned the road to Frankfort, which he blockaded, and all the ground occupied by his left. He retreated, and soon fell into complete route.

"It was five o'clock; the enemy made an effort on his right to disengage his left, and give time to the latter to retire. General Friant sent two battalions of the old guard to a farmhouse, situated on the old road of Hanau. The enemy was driven from it, and his right compelled to retreat. Before six in the evening he had repassed in route the little river Kintzig.

"The victory was complete. The enemy, who pretended to block up the whole country, was obliged to evacuate the road of Hanau and Frankfort.

“ We have made 6000 prisoners, and taken several colours and pieces of cannon. The enemy had six Generals killed or wounded. His loss is about 10,000 in killed, wounded, and prisoners; ours only from 4 to 500 killed or wounded. We had engaged only about 5000 tirailleurs, four battalions of the old guard, about eighty squadrons of cavalry, and about 120 pieces of cannon.

“ At day-break of the 31st the enemy had retired upon Aschaffenburg. The Emperor continued his movement, and at three in the afternoon was at Frankfort.

“ The colours taken in this battle, and those taken at Wachau and Leipzig, have been sent forward to Paris.

“ The cuirassiers, the mounted grenadiers, the dragoons, made brilliant charges. Two squadrons of the *gardes d' honneur* of the 5th regiment, commanded by Major Salucis, particularly distinguished themselves, and gives reason for presuming what may be expected from this corps next spring, when they will be perfectly organised and disciplined.

“ The general of artillery of the army, Nourrit,

and General Devaux, major of artillery of the guard, have merited to be distinguished ; General Letort, Major of dragoons in the guards, although wounded in the battle of Wachau, would charge at the head of his regiment, and had his horse killed.

“ On the 31st, in the evening, the grand head quarters were at Frankfort.

“ The Duke of Treviso, with two divisions of the young guard, and the first corps of cavalry, was at Gelnhausen. The Duke of Reggio had arrived at Frankfort. Count Bertrand and the Duke of Ragusa were at Hanau; General Sebastiani was upon the Nidda.”

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*Letter from the Duke of Vicenza to the Captain Commandant of the two Regiments of Saxon Cuirassiers employed in Count Latour Maubour's corps of Cavalry.*

“ Markranstadt, October 19, 1813.

“ I hasten to inform you, M. Le Commandant, that the Emperor authorises the two regiments of Saxon cuirassiers of the guard and of Zeschwitz, which are serving in his armies, to proceed to

Leipzig; his Majesty thinking that it will be agreeable to your good King to have these troops of his guard near his person, under existing circumstances.

“ General Latour Maubourg, who is informed of this disposition, will afford you all the necessary facilities, that the return of these troops may suffer no difficulty. I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) “ CAULAINCOURT, Duke of Vicenza.”

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*Letter from the Major-general, to the Lieutenant-colonel commanding the Bavarian troops.*

“ Erfurt, October 24, 1813.

“ The King, your master, forgetting what the Emperor has done for him, has declared war against France. Under such circumstances, the Bavarian troops which are with the army might be disarmed and made prisoners of war: but that would be contrary to the confidence which the troops under his orders should have in him. In consequence, Monsieur, his Majesty's intention is, that you should collect your battalion. You shall have magazines given you, and four day's provisions; and you shall set out from hence to



proceed to Cobourg upon Bamberg, where you will take your orders from the Minister of his Majesty the King of Bavaria.

“ It would likewise be equally contrary to the sentiments of honour and loyalty, that you should bear arms against France. In consequence, it is the Emperor’s wish, that you and your officers should give your word of honour, that neither you nor your soldiers shall serve against France previous to the expiration of one year.

“ The Prince Vice Constable, Major-general.

(Signed) “ ALEXANDER.”

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#### NINETEENTH BULLETIN.

*Paris, Nov. 7, 1813.*

Her Majesty the Empress Queen and Regent has received the following accounts of the situation of the army on the 3d of November :

“ On the 30th of October, at the moment when the battle of Hanau was fought, General Lefevre, at the head of his division of cavalry, and of the 5th corps of cavalry, commanded by General

Milhand, flanked all the right of the army on the side of Bruckoebel and Nieder-Issingheim. He found himself in presence of a corps of Russian and allied cavalry, of from 6 to 7000 men : the combat commenced ; several charges, all to our advantage, took place, and that enemy's corps, formed by the junction of two or three partizans, was broken and briskly pursued. We took from it 150 mounted prisoners. Our loss consisted of about 60 men wounded,

“ The day following the battle of Hanau, the enemy was in full retreat : the Emperor did not wish to pursue him, the army being fatigued, and his Majesty, far from attaching any importance, could only have seen with regret the destruction of 4 or 5000 Bavarians, which would have been the result of that pursuit. His Majesty, therefore, contented himself with causing the enemy's rear guard to be slightly pursued, and left General Bertrand on the Kintzig river.

“ About three o'clock in the afternoon, the enemy knowing that the army had filed off, retraced his steps hoping to obtain some advantage over General Bertrand's corps.

“ The divisions Morand and Guillemet allowed him to make his preparations for the passage of

the Kintzig; and when he had, passed it, marched upon him with fixed bayonets, and drove him into the river, where the greater part of his people were drowned.

“ The enemy has lost 3000 men in this affair.

“ The Bavarian General Wrede, Commander-in-chief of that army, has been mortally wounded; and it is remarkable, that all the relations which he had in the army perished in the battle of Hanau; among others, his son-in-law, the Prince of Rettingen.

“ A Bavarian and Austrian division entered Frankfort on the 30th at noon; but upon the approach of the scouts of the French army, it retired upon the left bank of the Mein, after having destroyed the bridge.

“ On the 2d of November, the French rear guard evacuated Frankfort, and marched upon the Nidda.

“ The same day, at five o'clock in the morning, the Emperor entered Mayence.

“ It is supposed among the people, that General Wrede has been the author and principal agent

of the defection of Bavaria. That general had been loaded with favours by the Emperor."

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**TWENTIETH BULLETIN.**

*Paris, Nov. 9th, 1813.*

Her Majesty the Empress Queen and Regent has received the following intelligence respecting the situation of the army on the 7th instant:—

"The Duke of Tarentum was at Cologne, where he was organizing an army for the defence of the Lower Rhine. The Duke of Ragusa was at Mentz; the Duke of Belluno was at Strasburg; the Duke of Valmy had gone to Mentz, to take the command of all the reserves.

Count Bertrand, with the fourth corps, composed of four divisions of infantry and one of cavalry, in all 40,000 strong, occupied the right bank in front of Cassel: his head quarters were at Hockheim. For four days, an entrenched camp had been preparing on the heights, a league in advance of Cassel. Several works had been marked out, and were in considerable forwardness.

**“ All the rest of the army had passed the Rhine.**

**“ On the 7th, his Majesty had signed the re-organization of the army, and had nominated to all the vacant situations.**

**“ The advanced guard, commanded by Count Bertrand, had not yet seen any of the enemy's infantry, but only some troops of light cavalry.**

**“ All the strong places on the Rhine were arming, and being provisioned with the greatest activity.**

**“ The newly-raised national guards were repairing in every direction to garrison the fortresses, thereby leaving the army disposeable.**

**“ General Dulauloy was re-organizing the 200 cannon of the guard. General Sorbier was employed in re-organizing a 100 horse and foot batteries, and in repairing the loss in horses which the artillery had suffered.**

**“ It was thought that his Majesty would not long delay his departure for Paris.”**

IMPERIAL NOTIFICATION.

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*Paris, Nov. 10, 1813.*

The Emperor arrived at St. Cloud yesterday afternoon at five o'clock.

His Majesty had left Mentz at one o'clock in the morning of the 8th.

*End of the Campaign of 1813.*

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## PAPERS

RELATIVE TO

## THE NEGOCIATIONS FOR PEACE.

*Note of Count de Metternich, in Answer to that of the Duke of Bassano, dated Dresden, August 18, 1813.*

*Prague, August 21, 1813.*

The undersigned, minister of state and for foreign affairs received yesterday the official note which his Excellency the Duke of Bassano did him the honour to address to him on the 16th instant.

It is not, now that war has broken out between Austria and France, that the Austrian Cabinet thinks itself called upon to reply to the gratuitous inculpations contained in the note of the Duke of Bassano. Supported by general opinion, Austria calmly awaits the judgment of Europe, and that of posterity.

The proposal of his Majesty the Emperor of

the French still offering to the Emperor a glimmering of hope to attain a general pacification, his Majesty has thought it his duty to lay hold of it. In consequence, he has ordered the undersigned to acquaint the Russian and Prussian Cabinets with the desire for the opening of a congress, which should employ itself during the war, with the means of bringing about a general pacification. Their Majesties the Emperor Alexander and the King of Prussia, animated by the same sentiments as their august ally, have authorized the undersigned to declare to the Duke of Bassano, that being unable to decide on a point in which all seem equally interested, without having previously conferred upon it with the other allies, the three Courts will, without delay, make them acquainted with the proposal of France.

The undersigned is charged to transmit, with at little delay as possible, to the French Cabinet, the overtures of all the allied Courts in answer to the above proposal.

He has the honour to offer to his Excellency the Duke of Bassano, the renewed assurances of his high consideration.

(Signed) Count De METTERNICH.



*Report of the Baron de St. Aignan.*

On the 26th of October, having been for two days previous treated as a prisoner of war at Weimar, at which place were the head quarters of the Emperors of Austria and Russia, I received orders to depart the next day with a column of prisoners, who were to be sent to Bohemia. I had till then seen nobody, nor made any reclamation, thinking the title with which I was invested was sufficient reclamation of itself, and having protested beforehand against the treatment which I experienced. In these circumstances, however, I thought it my duty to write to Prince Schwartzenberg and Count de Metternich, representing to them the impropriety of this proceeding.

Prince Schwartzenberg immediately sent to me Count Parr, his own aide-de-camp, to excuse the mistake that had been made respecting me, and to desire me to call either on him, or on Count de Metternich. I immediately repaired to the house of the latter. Prince Schwartzenberg having just absented himself, Count de Metternich received me with marked eagerness. He said but a few words on my situation, from which he took upon himself to relieve me, being happy,

as he said, to do me this service, and at the same time to express the esteem which the Emperor of Austria had conceived for the Duke of Vicenza. Then he spoke to me of the congress, without my having said any thing that could lead to this conversation. "We were sincerely desirous of peace," said he: "we are so still, and we shall make it. Nothing more is required than to take up the question frankly and without evasions. The coalition will remain united. The indirect means which the Emperor Napoleon would employ to obtain peace, can no more succeed. Let the parties declare themselves frankly and peace will be made."

After this conversation, Count de Metternich desired me to go to Toeplitz, where I should soon hear from him, and that he hoped to see me on my return. I set off for Toeplitz on the 27th of October; I arrived there on the 30th, and on the 2d of November, I received a letter from Count de Metternich, in consequence of which I quitted Toeplitz on the 3d of November, and repaired to the head quarters of the Emperor of Austria, at Frankfort, where I arrived on the 8th. I went the same day to Count de Metternich; he spoke to me immediately on the progress of the allied arms, of the revolution which was taking place in Germany, and of the necessity

for making peace. He told me that the allies, long before the declaration of Austria, had saluted the Emperor Francis with the title of Emperor of Germany; that he did not accept this unmeaning title; and that Germany was more to him in this manner than before; that he desired that the Emperor Napoleon should be persuaded that the greatest calmness and the spirit of moderation presided in the councils of the allies; that they should not disunite themselves, because they wished to retain their activity and their strength; that they were so much the stronger as they were moderate; that nothing was intended by any body against the dynasty of the Emperor Napoleon; that England was much more moderate than was thought; that there had never been a more favourable moment for treating with her; that if the Emperor Napoleon really desired to make a solid peace, he would spare humanity many misfortunes, and France many dangers, by not delaying the negotiations for peace; that they were near coming to an understanding; that the ideas conceived of peace ought to give just limits to the power of England, and to France all the maritime liberty which she had a right to claim, as well as the other powers of Europe.

That England was ready to restore to Holland

as an independent state, what she would not restore to her as a French province ; that what M. de Merfeldt had been charged to say from the Emperor Napoleon, might give room for the words which he requested me to convey ; that he asked me only to deliver them exactly without making any alteration in them ; that the Emperor Napoleon would not conceive the possibility of an equilibrium among the powers of Europe ; that the balance was not only possible but necessary ; that it had been proposed at Dresden, to take for indemnity countries which the Emperor no longer possessed, such as the Grand Duchy of Warsaw ; that similar compensations might be made on the present occasion.

On the 9th, Count de Metternich sent to me to come to him at 9 p. m. He was just come from the Emperor of Austria, and delivered me his Majesty's letter for the Empress. He told me that Count Nesselrode was coming to him, and that it would be in concert with him, that he would charge me with the words which I was to deliver to the Emperor. He begged me to tell the Duke of Vicenza that the same sentiments of esteem were still preserved towards him, which his noble character had always inspired.

A few moments after, Count Nesselrode en-

tered. He repeated to me, in a few words, what Count de Metternich had already said to me on the mission, which I was invited to take upon myself, and added, that Count Hardenberg might be considered as being present, and approving all that was going to be said. Here M. de Metternich explained the intention of the allies, such as I was to report them to the Emperor. After having heard him, I answered, that as it was my part to listen and not to speak, I had nothing else to do than to report his words literally: and that, in order to be more sure of this, I desired to note them down for my own sole use, and to submit them to his perusal. Then Count Nesselrode having proposed that I should write this note on the spot, M. de Metternich led me alone into a closet, where I wrote the subjoined note.

When I had written it, I returned into the room. M. de Metternich said, "Here is Lord Aberdeen, the English ambassador; our intentions are the same: we may, therefore, continue our discourse in his presence." He then asked me to read what I had written. When I came to the article relating to England, Lord Aberdeen seemed not to have well understood it. I read it a second time; then he observed that the expressions, "*Freedom of commerce and rights*

*of navigation*" were very vague. I answered; I had written what M. de Metternich had commissioned me to say. M. de Metternich replied that, in fact, these expressions might confuse the question, and that it would be better to substitute others for them. He took the pen, and wrote, that England would make the greatest sacrifices for peace, founded on these bases, (those before laid down.) I observed, these expressions were just as vague as those for which they had been substituted. Lord Aberdeen assented, and said, that it would be just as well to restore what I had written; that he reiterated the assurance that England was ready to make the greatest sacrifices: that she possessed much; that she would restore with lavish hands.

The rest of the note having been found conformable to what I had heard, the conversation turned on indifferent subjects. Prince Schwarzenberg came in, and all that had passed was repeated to him. Count Nesselrode, who had absented himself for a moment during this conversation, returned, and commissioned me, from the Emperor Alexander, to tell the Duke of Vicenza that he would never change the opinion he had of his good faith and of his character, and that matters would soon be settled if he was charged with a negociation.

I was to set off the next day, November 10th, in the morning ; but Prince Schwatzenberg sent to beg me to wait till the evening, not having had time to write to the Prince of Neuffchatel. In the night he sent Count Vagna, one of his aides-de-camp, who delivered me the letters, and conducted me to the advanced posts.

(Signed)

SAINT AIGNAN.

*Note written from Frankfort, November 9th, by  
Baron St. Aignan.*

Count de Metternich has told me, that the circumstance which has brought me to the headquarters of the Emperor of Austria, might render it suitable to charge me to carry to his Majesty the Emperor the answer to the proposals which he caused to be made by Count Merfeldt. In consequence, Count de Metternich and Count Nesselrode have desired me to report to his Majesty :—

That the allied powers were engaged by indissoluble ties, which constituted their strength, and from which they would never deviate.

That the mutual engagements which they had contracted, had made them take the resolution to make no other than a general peace.

That at the time of the congress at Prague, a continental peace might be thought of, because the circumstances would not have given time to come to an understanding to treat otherwise : but that, since then, the intentions of all the powers, and those of England, were known ; that, therefore, it was useless to think, either of an armistice, or of a negotiation, which had not for its first principle a general peace.

That the allied Sovereigns were agreed unanimously respecting the power and the preponderance which France ought to retain in her integrity, and confining herself to her natural limits, which are the Rhine, the Alps, and the Pyrennees.

That the principle of the independence of Germany was a condition, *sine qua non* ; that France must therefore renounce, not the influence which every great state necessarily exercises over a state of inferior strength, but every kind of sovereignty over Germany : that besides, it was a principle which his Majesty himself had laid down, that it was proper that great States should be separated by weaker ones.



That on the side of the Pyrennees, the independence of Spain and the restoration of the ancient dynasty, were also a condition, *sine qua non*.

That in Italy, Austria ought to have a frontier, which would be an object of negociation; that Piedmont offered several lines, which might be discussed, as well as the state of Italy, provided nevertheless, that like Germany it should be governed in a manner independent of France, or any other preponderating power. That in the same manner the state of Holland would be a subject of negociation, always proceeding on the principle that it must be independent.

That England was ready to make the greatest sacrifices for a peace founded on those bases, and to negotiate the freedom of commerce and navigation, to which France has a right to pretend.

That if these principles of a general pacification were approved by his Majesty, a place on the right bank of the Rhine, which might be judged proper, might be made neutral, whither the Plenipotentiaries of all the belligerent powers should immediately repair, without the

negociations suspending the course of military events.

(Signed) ST. AIGNAN.

*Frankfort, Nov. 9, 1813.*

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*Letter from the Duke of Bassano to Count de Metternich.*

*Paris, Nov. 16, 1813.*

Sir,

Baron St. Aignan arrived here on Monday (yesterday), and has reported to us, according to the communications which have been made to him by your Excellency, that England has assented to the proposal for the opening of a congress for a general peace, and that the powers are inclined to neutralize a town on the right bank of the Rhine where the plenipotentiaries may meet. His Majesty wishes that this town may be Manheim. The Duke of Vicenza, whom he has chosen for his plenipotentiary, will repair thither as soon as your Excellency shall have informed me of the day which the allies have fixed for the opening of the congress. It seems to us, proper, Sir, and besides conformable to custom, that there should be no troops at Manheim, but

that the duty should be done by the burghers; at the same time that the police should be confided to a bailiff appointed by the Grand Duke of Baden. If it were judged proper to have picquets of cavalry, then their force must be equal on both sides. As for the communications of the English plenipotentiary with his Government, they might be made over France by the way of Calais.

A peace founded on the independence of all nations, as well in a continental as maritime point of view, has been the constant object of the wishes and of the policy of the Emperor. His Majesty augurs well from the report made by M. Saint Aignan, of what was said by the minister from England.

I have the honour to offer your Excellency the assurance of my high consideration.

(Signed)      The Duke of BASSANO.

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*Answer of Prince de Metternich to the Duke of Bassano.*

Sir,

The courier which your Excellency dispatched from Paris on the 16th November, arrived here yesterday. I hastened to shew their Imperial

Majesties and the King of Prussia-the letter which you have done me the honour to write to me. Their Majesties have seen with pleasure that the confidential communication with M. de St. Aignan has been considered by his Majesty the Emperor of the French as a proof of the pacific intentions of the high allied powers: animated by the same spirit, invariable in their point of view, and indissoluble in their alliance, they are ready to enter upon a negociation as soon as they shall be certain that his Majesty the Emperor of the French admits the general and summary bases which I have pointed out in my conversation with M. de St. Aignan.

In your Excellency's letter, however, there is no mention of these bases. You confine yourself to expressing a principle common to all the Governments of Europe, and which all of them place among the first of their wishes. This principle, however, considering its want of precision, cannot supply the place of these bases. Their Majesties desire that the Emperor Napoleon would explain himself relatively to the latter, as the only means to prevent insurmountable obstacles from obstructing the negociations at their very beginning.

The choice of the city of Manheim appears to

the allies to offer no obstacles; its neutralization, and the regulations of the police, which your Excellency proposes, can in no case occasion any.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my high consideration.

(Signed) Prince DE METTERNICH.

*Frankfort on the Maine,*

*Nov. 25, 1813.*

*Letter from the Duke of Vicenza to Prince de Metternich.*

*Paris, Dec. 2, 1813.*

Prince!

I have shewn to his Majesty the letter which your Excellency addressed to the Duke of Bassano the 25th of November last. In admitting without restriction the independence of all nations as the basis of peace, as well in a territorial as maritime light, France has admitted in principle what the allies seem to wish. His Majesty has by this admitted all the consequences of this principle, the final result of which must be a peace, founded on the balance of Europe, on the recognition of the integrity of all nations in

their natural limits, and on the recognition of the absolute independence of all States, so that no one can arrogate to itself over another any kind of sovereignty or supremacy, under whatever form, either by sea or land.

It is, however, with lively satisfaction that I announce to your Excellency, that I am authorised by the Emperor, my august master, to declare, that his Majesty adheres to *the general and summary bases*, which have been communicated by M. de St. Aignan. They will bring with them great sacrifices on the part of France; but his Majesty will make them without regret, if, by such sacrifices, England gives the means of attaining a general peace, honourable for all, which your Excellency affirms to be the wish, not only of the Powers of the Continent, but also of England.

Accept, &c.

(Signed)

CAULAINCOURT,  
Duke of Vicenza.

*Answer of Prince Metternich to the Duke of  
Vicenza.*

Sir,

The official letter which your Excellency did me the honour to send me on the 2d of December, has reached me from Cassel through our out-posts. I have lost no time in laying it before their Majesties. They have observed with pleasure that his Majesty the Emperor of the French had adopted bases essential to the re-establishment of a state of equilibrium, and to the future tranquillity of Europe.

They have resolved that this paper should without delay be communicated to their allies. Their Majesties do not doubt but that the negotiations may be opened as soon as the answer shall have been received.

We shall hasten to inform your Excellency of it, and to then concert with you the arrangements which shall seem best calculated to attain the end we have in view.

I beg you to accept, &c.

(Signed) Prince DE METTERNICH.

*Frankfort on the Maine,*

*Dec. 10, 1813.*

*Letter from the Duke of Vicenza to Prince de Metternich.*

*Luneville, Jan. 6, 1814.*

Prince!

I have received the letter which your Excellency did me the honour to write to me on the 10th of last month. The Emperor will not form a precipitate judgment on the motives which have required that his full and entire assent to the bases which your Excellency has proposed, in common with the ministers of England and Russia, should be communicated to the allies before the opening of the congress. It is difficult to suppose that Lord Aberdeen can have had powers to propose bases, and not to negotiate. His Majesty will not affront the allies. They have been undeceived, and they still deliberate. They know well, that every conditional offer becomes an absolute engagement for him who has made it, as soon as the annexed condition is fulfilled.

In every case we had reason to expect before the 6th of January the answer which your Excellency announced on the 10th of December. Your correspondence, and the reiterated declarations of the allied powers, did not let us foresee



any difficulties; and the accounts of M. Talleyrand, on his return from Switzerland, confirm that their intentions are still the same. Whence, then, can these delays proceed? His Majesty having nothing more at heart than the speedy re-establishment of a general peace, has thought he could not give a stronger proof of the sincerity of his sentiments in this respect, than by sending to the allied Sovereigns his minister for foreign affairs, provided with full powers. I hasten, therefore, Prince, to acquaint you, that I shall wait at the out-posts of our army for the necessary passports to pass through those of the allied armies, and to repair to your Excellency.

Accept, &c.

(Signed)

CAULAINCOURT.

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*Answer from Prince de Metternich.*

*Freyburg, in the Brisgau, Jan. 8, 1814.*

Sir,

I have received to-day the letter your Excellency did me the honour to write me from Luneville the 6th inst. The delay of the communication which the French Government expected, in consequence of my official letter of the 10th

of December, results from the manner of proceeding which the allied powers must observe among themselves. The confidential conversations with Baron St. Aignan having led to official overtures on the part of France, their Imperial and Royal Majesties have judged, that your Excellency's answer of the 2d of December was of a nature that required its being communicated to their allies. The supposition of your Excellency, that it was Lord Aberdeen who proposed the bases, and that he was furnished with powers for that purpose, is wholly unfounded. The Court of London has just sent to the Continent the secretary of state for the foreign department. His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias being for a short time absent from this place, and Lord Castlereagh being hourly expected, my august Master, and his Majesty the King of Prussia, charge me to inform your Excellency, that you will receive as soon as possible the answer to your proposal, to repair to the head quarters of the allied Sovereigns.

I beg your Excellency, &c.

Prince DE METTERNICH.

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## CAMPAIGN IN FRANCE.

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### IMPERIAL NOTIFICATION.

*Paris, Jan. 25, 1814.*

This morning, at seven o'clock, his Majesty the Emperor and King set out to put himself at the head of his armies.

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### FIRST BULLETIN.

*Paris, Feb. 5, 1814.*

Her Majesty the Empress. Queen and Regent has received the following advices of the situation of the armies on the 3d of February:—

“The Emperor arrived at Vitry on the 26th of January. General Blucher, with the army of Silesia, had passed the Marne, and was marching upon Troyes. On the 27th the enemy entered Brienne, and continued his march; but he had to lose some time in re-establishing the bridge of Lesmont on the Aube,

"On the 27th, the Emperor caused St. Dizier to be attacked. The Duke of Belluno presented himself before that town; General Duhesme overthrew the enemy's rear-guard, which was still there, and took some hundreds of prisoners. At eight in the morning the Emperor arrived at Dizier; it is difficult to describe the intoxication and joy of the inhabitants at this moment. The excesses of all kinds committed by the enemy, and especially by the Cossacks, are beyond all description.

"On the 28th, the Emperor advanced upon Montiarder.

"On the 29th, at eight in the morning, General Grouchy, who commands the cavalry, gave information, that General Milhaud, with the 5th corps of cavalry, was between Maizieres and Brienne, in presence of the enemy's army, commanded by General Blucher, and which was estimated at 40,000 Russians and Prussians; the Russians commanded by General Sacken. At four o'clock the small town of Brienne was attacked. General Lefevre Desnouettes, commanding a division of the cavalry of the guard, and Generals Grouchy and Milhaud, executed several fine charges on the right of the road, and made themselves masters of the heights of

Perthe. The Prince of Moskwa put himself at the head of the battalions in close columns, and advanced upon the town by the road of Maizières. General Chateau, chief of the Duke of Belluno's staff, at the head of two battalions, turned to the right, and entered the castle of Brienne by the park. At this moment the Emperor directed a column on the road to Bar-sur-Aube, which appeared to be the enemy's point of retreat; the attack was vigorous, and the resistance obstinate. The enemy did not expect so severe an attack, and had only time to recall his parks from the bridge of Lesmont, where he reckoned upon passing the Aube, in order to march forward. This countermarch had greatly embarrassed him.

“ Night put an end to the combat. The division Deconx of the young guard, and a brigade of the division Mensinier, were engaged: the great number of the enemy's forces, and the fine situation of Brienne, afforded him many advantages; but the capture of the castle, which he had neglected to guard in force, occasioned him the loss of them. Towards eight o'clock, seeing that he could not maintain his position, he set fire to the town, and the flames spread with rapidity, all the houses being of wood. Availing himself of this event, he endeavoured to re-take the castle, which the brave chief of battalion

of the 56th, defended with intrepidity. He covered with dead all the approaches to the castle; and particularly the staircases on the side of the park. This last check decided the enemy's retreat, which was favoured by the conflagration of the town.

“ On the 30th, at eleven in the morning, General Grouchy and the Duke of Belluno pursued him beyond the village of La Rothiare, where he had taken a position.

“ The 31st was employed by us in repairing the bridge of Lesmont-sur-Aube, the Emperor wishing to advance upon Troyes, in order to operate upon the columns, which were directing their march upon Sens, by Bar-sur-Aube, and the route of Auxerre.

“ The bridge of Lesmont could not be re-established till the 1st of February, in the morning; a part of our troops were instantly made to file across it.

“ At three o'clock in the afternoon, the enemy having been reinforced by his whole army, debouched upon La Rothiare and Dienville, which we still occupied. Our rear-guard kept in good order. General Duhesme distinguished himself

in preserving La Rothiare ; and General Girard in preserving Dienville. The Austrian corps of General Giulay, which endeavoured to pass from the left bank to the right, and to force the bridge had several of its battalions destroyed. The Duke of Belluno continued the whole day at the hamlet of La Giberie, in spite of the enormous disproportion of his forces to those of the enemy by which he was attacked.

“ This day, in which our rear-guard supported itself in a vast plain, against the enemy's whole army, and five times its own force, is one of the finest achievements of the French army.

“ In the midst of the obscurity of the night, a battery of artillery of the guard, following the movements of a column of cavalry which rushed forward to repel a charge of the enemy, mistook its way, and was taken. When the cannoneers perceived the ambuscade into which they had fallen, and saw that they had not time to form themselves in battery, they immediately formed in squadron, attacked the enemy, and saved their horses and harness. They have lost fifteen men killed or made prisoners.

“ At ten o'clock at night, the Prince of Neufchatel visiting the posts, found the two armies so

near each other, that he frequently mistook the posts of the enemy for our own. One of his aides-de-camp, finding himself within ten paces of a vidette, was made prisoner. The same accident has happened to many Russian officers, who were carrying orders, and who fell into our posts, thinking that they had reached their own.

“ There are few prisoners made on either side. We have taken 250.

“ On the 2d of February, at day-break, all the rear-guard of the army was in battalion before Brienne. It took successively different positions, in order to accomplish the passage of the bridge of Lesmont, and to join the rest of the army. The Duke of Ragusa, who had taken up a position upon the bridge of Rosnay, was attacked by an Austrian corps, which had passed behind the woods. He repulsed it, made 300 prisoners, and charged the enemy beyond the little river of Voire.

“ On the 3d, at noon, the Emperor entered Troyes.

“ We have lost in the battle of Brienne the brave General Baste. General Lefevre Des-



nonettes has been wounded by a thrust of the bayonet. General Forestier has been severely wounded. Our loss in these two engagements may amount to between 2 or 3000 men, killed or wounded. That of the enemy is at least double.

“ A division detached from the corps of the enemy's army, which observes Metz, Thionville, and Luxemburg, and amounting to ten battalions, has advanced upon Vitry. The enemy intended to have entered that town, which General Montmorie and the inhabitants defended. It was in vain that they threw shells, in order to intimidate the inhabitants; they were received by cannon-shot, and driven back a league and a half. The Duke of Tarentum arrived at Chalons, and marched upon that division.

“ On the morning of the 4th the Count de Stadion, Count Rasumouski, Lord Castlereagh, and the Baron de Humboldt, reached Chatillon-sur-Seine, where the Duke of Vicenza had already arrived. The first visits were made on both sides, and on the evening of the same day the first conferences of the plenipotentiaries were to take place.”

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## SECOND BULLETIN.

*Paris, February 11, 1814.*

Her Majesty the Empress Queen and Regent has, to-day, received the following intelligence from the army.

“ The Emperor, yesterday, (the 10th) attacked, at Champaubert, the enemy, consisting of twelve regiments and having forty pieces of cannon. The General-in-chief, Ousouwieff, has been taken, with all his generals, all his colonels, officers, cannon, caissons, and baggage. We have made 6000 prisoners; the remainder were driven into a morass (*étang*) or killed upon the field of battle. The Emperor was briskly pursuing General Sacken, who is separated from General Blucher.

“ Our loss has been extremely light; we have not 200 men to regret.”

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## THIRD BULLETIN.

*Paris, February 12, 1814.*

M. Alfred de Montesquieu, aide-de-camp to

the Prince of Neufchatel, dispatched by his Majesty the Emperor, has brought to her Majesty the Empress the following news:—

“ On the 11th of February, at day-break, the Emperor having left Champaubert after the day of the 10th, pushed a corps towards Chalons to keep in check the enemy's columns, who had thrown themselves on this side. With the rest of his army he took the road to Montmirail. A league beyond he met the corps of General Blucher, and after an action of two hours, the whole of the enemy's army was overthrown. Never did our troops display more ardour. The enemy, every where broken, is completely routed; infantry, artillery, ammunition, all is in our power, or overthrown. The results will be immense. The Russian army is destroyed. The Emperor is extremely well, and we have lost no person of rank.”

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#### FOURTH BULLETIN.

*Paris, February 13, 1814.*

Her Majesty the Empress Queen and Regent has received the following accounts of the situation of the armies:—

On the 12th of February his Majesty followed up his successes. Blucher endeavoured to gain Chateau-Thierry. His troops were driven from position to position. A whole corps, which had remained united, and which protected his retreat, was cut off. This rear-guard was composed of four Russian battalions, three Prussian battalions, and three pieces of cannon. The General who commanded it was also taken. Our troops entered Chateau-Thierry *pell-mell* with the enemy, and are pursuing, on the road to Soissons, the wrecks of this army, which is in dreadful confusion. The results of to-day, the 12th, are 30 pieces of cannon, and an innumerable quantity of baggage waggons. The number of prisoners was already 3000; more are brought in every instant. We have still two hours daylight.

“Among the prisoners are five or six Generals, who are sent to Paris. It is believed that the General-in-Chief, Sachse, has been killed.”

#### FIFTH BULLETIN.

Paris, February 15, 1814.

Her Majesty the Empress Queen and Regent

has received the following account of the situation of the armies on the 7th of February:—

“On the 3d, two hours after his arrival at Troyes, the Emperor made the Duke of Treviso depart to Maisonsblanches. An Austrian division, commanded by Prince Maurice Lachitenstein, had advanced to this point, which is two leagues from the town: it was vigorously repulsed and driven two leagues beyond. On the 4th, in the evening, the head quarters of the Emperor of Russia were at Lusigny, near Vandoeuve, two leagues from Troyes, where the Russian guard was, and the enemy's army. The enemy intended to enter Troyes that evening. He marched on the bridge of La Guillotiere, where he found a warm resistance. His first attack was repulsed: some cavalry, who were made prisoners, told him that the Emperor was at Troyes: then he thought it necessary to take other measures. At the same moment the Duke of Treviso caused an attack to be made on the bridge of Clercy, which was occupied by the division of General Bianchi. The enemy was driven away. The General of division, Briche, made a charge, in which he took 160 men, and killed 100. On the 5th the Emperor was preparing to pass the bridge of La Guillotiere and attack the enemy, when his Majesty learned that he had sounded a retreat and

retrograded one march towards Vandœuvre. On the 6th, arrangements were made to menace Bar-sur-Seine. Some attacks took place on that road: we took from the enemy thirty men, one piece of cannon, and a caisson. During this time the army put itself in march for Nogent, in order to fall on the enemy's columns which have occupied Chalons and Vitry, and which threatened Paris from Ferte-sous-Jouarre and Meaux. On the 7th, in the morning, the Duke of Tarentum had his head quarters near Chaville, between Epernay and Chalons. The divisions of the national guard *d'élite* from Montereau, Normandy, and Picardy, put themselves in motion, under the command of General Pajol. The division of the army of Spain, under General Laval, is arrived at Provins: the others follow: they are composed of soldiers who made the campaigns in Austria and Poland. They are replaced in the army of Spain by five divisions of reserve.

"To-day, the 7th, at noon, the Emperor is arrived at Nogent. All in motion to manœuvre. The inhabitants are exasperated to the highest degree: the army every where commits the most horrible excesses: all measures are taken for surrounding him on all sides as soon as he retrogrades one step. Millions of arms wait only

for the moment to raise themselves. The sacred territory which the enemy has violated will become a land of fire which will devour him."

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SIXTH BULLETIN.

**BATTLE OF MONTMIRAIL.**

*Paris, February 15, 1814.*

Her Majesty the Empress Queen and Regent, has received the following news of the situation of the armies to the 12th of February:—

On the 10th the Emperor had his headquarters at Sezanne. The Duke of Tarentum was at Meaux, having caused the bridges of La Ferte and Tréport to be cut down. General Sacken and General York were at La Ferte; General Blücher at Vertus, and General Alsfleth at Champ-Aubert. The army of Silesia was only three marches from Paris. This army, commanded in chief by General Blücher, was composed of the corps of Sacken and Langeron, forming sixty regiments of Russian infantry, and of the flower of the Prussian army. On the 10th, at day-break, the Emperor advanced to the heights of St. Prix, to cut the army of General Blücher in two. At ten the Duke of Ragusa passed the marshes (*étangs*) of St. Gond, and attacked the village of Baye. The 9th Russian

corps, under General Alsuffiew, of twelve regiments, deployed, and presented a battery of twenty-four pieces of cannon. The divisions Lagrange and Ricart, with the cavalry of the first corps, turned the enemy's position by his right. At one o'clock we were masters of the village of Baye, at two o'clock the imperial guard deployed in the fine plains between Baye and Champ-Aubert. The enemy began his retreat: the Emperor ordered General Girardin, with two squadrons of the guard *de service*, to put himself at the head of the first corps of cavalry, and to turn the enemy, in order to cut him off from the road to Chalons. The enemy, who perceived this movement, fell into disorder. The Duke of Ragusa caused the village of Champ-Aubert to be carried. At the same instant the cuirassiers charged on the right, and pressed the Russians against a wood and a lake, between the road to Epernay and that to Chalons. The enemy had but little cavalry. Seeing himself without retreat, his masses became confused; artillery, cavalry, infantry, all fled *pell-mell* into the wood; 2000 men were drowned in the lake; thirty pieces of cannon and 200 carriages were taken. The General-in-Chief, the Generals, the Colonels, more than 100 officers, and 4000 men were made prisoners. This corps of two divisions and twelve regiments, ought to have consisted of 18,000, but



sickness, long marches, and battles, had reduced it to 8,000; scarcely 1,500 escaped by means of the woods and the darkness. General Blucher remained at his head quarters at Vertus, where he witnessed the disasters of this part of his army, without being able to remedy them. Not a man of the guard was engaged, except two of the four squadrons *de service*, who behaved valiantly. The cuirassiers of the 1st corps of cavalry have displayed the rarest intrepidity. At eight o'clock, General Nansouty having debouched on the causeway, advanced upon Montmirail with the division of the cavalry of the guard of Generals Colbert and La Ferriere; took the town, and 600 Cossacks who were in it.

"The 11th, at five in the morning, the division of cavalry of General Guyot also advanced upon Montmirail. Several divisions of infantry were delayed by being obliged to wait for their artillery. The roads from Sezanne to Champ-Aubert are execrable; our artillery would not have passed them, but for the diligence of the cannoneers, and by the assistance furnished by the inhabitants, who brought their horses. The action at Champ-Aubert, where a part of the Russian army was destroyed, did not cost us above 200 men, killed and wounded. The general of division, Lagrange, is among the latter, having a

a slight wound in the head. The Emperor arrived on the 11th, at ten in the morning, half a league in advance of Montmirail. General Nansouty was in his position, with the cavalry of the guard, and kept in check the army of Sachau, which began to shew itself. Informed of the disasters of a part of the Russian army, this general had quitted Ferte-sous-Jouarre on the 10th, at nine in the evening, and marched the whole night. General York had also quitted Chateau-Thierry. At eleven in the morning of the 11th, he began to form, and all foreboded the battle of Montmirail, the issue of which was of such vast importance. The Duke of Ragusa, with his corps, and the first corps of cavalry, had placed his head quarters at Etoges, on the road to Châlons. The division Ricart and the old guard arrived at ten in the morning. The Emperor ordered the Prince of Moskwa to line with troops the village of Marchais, - by which it seemed the enemy's intention to debouche. This village was defended by the brave division of General Ricart with rare firmness; it was taken and retaken several times during the course of the day. At noon the Emperor ordered General Nansouty to advance to the right, cutting the road of Chateau-Thierry, and formed the sixteen battalions of the old guard, under the command of General Friant, in a single column along the road, the battalion

columns being 100 paces from each other. During this time our batteries of artillery successively arrived. At three o'clock the Duke of Treviso, with the sixteen battalions of the 2d division of the old guard which had left Sezanne in the morning debouched on Montmirail. The Emperor would have wished to wait for the coming up of the other divisions, but night was approaching. He ordered General Friant to march with four battalions of the old guard, two of the 2d regiment of gend armerie, and two of the 2d regiment of chasseurs, upon the farm of Epine-aux-Bois, which was the key of the position, and to carry it. The Duke of Treviso, with six battalions of the 2d division of the old guard advanced to the right of General Friant's attack. The success of the day depended on the position of the farm of Epine-aux-Bois. The enemy was sensible of this; he had placed there forty pieces of cannon, had lined the hedges with a triple row of tirailleurs, and formed behind masses of infantry. Meantime, to render this attack more easy, the Emperor ordered general Nansouty to extend his line to the right, which made the enemy apprehensive of being cut off, and forced to uncover a part of his centre to cover his right. At the same time he ordered General Discart to yield a part of the village of Marchais, which also induced the enemy to uncover his centre to

reinforce this attack, on the success of which he supposed the gaining of the battle depended. As soon as General Friant had begun his movement, and the enemy had weakened his centre, to take advantage of his apparent success, which he believed real, General Friant attacked the farm of Haute Epine, with the four battalions of the old guard. They came up to the enemy running, and produced on him the effect of the head of Medusa. The Prince of Moskwa marched the first, and shewed them the road to honour. The tirailleurs retired in affright upon the masses of infantry which were attacked. The artillery could no longer play; the firing of small arms became dreadful, and success was balanced: but at the same moment General Gayot, at the head of the 1st regiment of lancers, of the old dragoons, and old grenadiers of the imperial guard, which filed along the high road in full trot, and with cries of *Vive l'Empereur*, passed to the right of Haute Epine. They fell on the rear of the masses of infantry, broke them, threw them into disorder, and killed all that were not taken prisoners. The Duke of Treviso, with six battalions of the division of General Michel, seconded there the attack of the old guard, reached the wood, carried the village of Fontenelle, and took a whole park of artillery. The division of the guard of honour filed off after the old guard

on the high road, and being arrived at the height of Epine-aux-Bais, turned to the left to carry what had advanced on the village of Marchais. General Bertrand, grand marshal of the palace, and the Duke of Bantzig, at the head of two battalions of the old guard, marched upon the village, and placed it between two fires. All that were in it were killed or taken. In less than a quarter of an hour a profound silence succeeded to the noise of the cannon and a dreadful fire of musketry. The enemy no longer sought safety but in flight. Generals, officers, soldiers, infantry, cavalry, and artillery, all fled pell-mell. At eight *p. m.* the night being obscure, it was requisite to take a position. The Emperor placed his head-quarters at the farm of Epine-aux-Bais. General Michel of the guard has been wounded by a ball in the arm. Our loss amounts to more than 1000 killed or wounded. That of the enemy is at least 8000 killed or prisoners. We have taken many cannon, and six stand of colours from him. This memorable day, which confounds the pride and boasting of the enemy, has annihilated the *elite* of the Russian army. The fourth of our army has not been engaged. The next day, the 12th, at nine in the morning, the Duke of Treviso followed the enemy upon the road of Chateau-Thierry. The Emperor, with two divisions of the cavalry of the guard, and

some battalions, went to Vieux-Maisons, and from thence took the road which goes right to Chateau-Thierry. The enemy covered his retreat with eight battalions, which arrived late the preceding evening, and had not been engaged. He supported them with some squadrons, and three pieces of cannon. Arrived at the small village of Cocquerets, he appeared determined to defend the position which is behind the rivulet, and to cover the road of Chateau-Thierry. A company of the old guard marched upon La Petite Noue, overthrew the enemy's tirailleurs, who were pursued to his last position. Six battalions of the old guard, at proper distances for deploying, occupied the plain on both sides of the road. General Nansouty, with the divisions of cavalry of Generals Lefebvre and Desfrane, had orders to make a movement to the right, and march between Chateau-Thierry and the enemy's rear-guard. This movement was executed with equal skill and intrepidity. The enemy's cavalry marched from all points upon his left to oppose the French cavalry. It was overthrown, and obliged to quit the field of battle. The brave General Letort, with the dragoons of the 2d division of the guard, after having repulsed the enemy's cavalry, moved upon the flanks and rears of eight masses of infantry which formed the enemy's rear guard.

This division, burning with desire to equal what the light horse, the dragoons, and the mounted grenadiers of General Guyot had done the preceding evening, surrounded on all sides these masses, and made an horrible carnage among them.

“The three pieces of cannon, the Russian General Feudeurich, who commanded this rear-guard, were taken; all which composed its battalions have been killed or made prisoners. The number of prisoners made in this brilliant affair amounts to more than 2000. Colonel Curley of the 10th hussars distinguished himself. We then arrived upon the heights of Chateau-Thierry, from whence we saw the remainder of that army flying in the greatest disorder, and gaining, with all haste, its bridges. The great road was cut off from them; they sought their salvation upon the right bank of the Marne. Prince William of Prussia, who had remained at Chateau-Thierry, with a reserve of 2000 men, advanced to the head of the suburbs, to protect the flight of this disorganized mass.

“Two battalions of the guard, at this time, arrived, running. At the sight of them, the suburbs and left bank were cleared; the enemy burnt

his bridges, and unmasked upon the right bank, a battery of twelve pieces of cannon; 500 men of the reserve of Prince William were taken.

"On the 12th in the evening, the Emperor had his head quarters in the small castle of Nisle. On the 13th, from break of day, we were occupied in repairing the bridges of Chateau-Thierry. The enemy not being able to retire, either upon the road of Eparnay, from which he was cut off, or by that which passes through the town of Soissons, which we occupy, has taken the cross road, in the direction of Rheims. The inhabitants assert, that of all the army, 10,000 men have not passed through Chateau-Thierry, and they in the greatest disorder. A few days before they had seen it flourishing, and full of boasting. General York said that ten howitzers would be sufficient to render him master of Paris. In going, these troops only talked of Paris; on returning, it was peace which they invoked. One cannot form an idea of the excesses to which the cossacks give themselves up; there are no vexations, cruelties, crimes, which those hordes of barbarians have not committed. The peasantry pursue them, track them in the woods, like ferocious beasts, seize them, and bring them wherever there are French troops. Yesterday they conducted more than 300 of them to Vaux-



four squadrons *de service*, commanded by the chief of squadrons of the guard, La Bisse. This charge was as brilliant as fortunate. A square of 2000 men was pierced and taken. All the cavalry of the guard then arrived at a sharp trot, and the enemy was pushed, sword in hand. At two o'clock we were at the village of Fromentieres; the enemy had lost 6000 men made prisoners, ten colours, and three pieces of cannon.

"The Emperor ordered General Grouchy to advance upon Champ-Aubert, a league in rear of the enemy. In effect, the enemy continuing his retreat, arrived on that point at night. He was surrounded on all sides, and all would have been taken, had the bad state of the roads permitted twelve pieces of light artillery to follow the cavalry of General Grouchy. Nevertheless, though the night was dark, three squares of their infantry were broken, killed or taken, and the others were briskly pursued as far as Etoges; the cavalry also took three pieces of cannon. The Russian division formed the rear-guard; it was attacked by the 1st regiment of the marine of the Duke of Ragusa, charged with the bayonet, broken, and lost 1000 prisoners, with Lieut. General Ouroussoff, who commanded it, and several colonels. The results of this brilliant day are 10,000 prisoners, ten pieces of cannon, ten colours, and a great number of

the enemy killed. Our loss does not exceed 3 or 400 men, killed or wounded; which is owing to the readiness with which our troops attacked the enemy, and the superiority of our cavalry; which determined him, as soon as he perceived it, to put his artillery in retreat; so that he marched constantly exposed to the fire of sixty pieces of cannon, while, of the sixty cannon which he had, he opposed to us only two or three,

The Prince of Neufchatel, the grand master of the palace, Count Bertrand, the Duke of Dantzic, and the Prince of Moskwa, were constantly at the head of the troops.

General Grouchy bestows the highest praise on the divisions of cavalry St. Germain and Doumère. The cavalry of the guard covered itself with glory; nothing could equal its intrepidity. General Lion, of the guard, was slightly wounded. The Duke of Ragusa makes particular mention of the 1st regiment of marine; the rest of the infantry, both of the guard and the line, did not fire a shot.

Thus this army of Silesia, composed of the Russian corps of Sacken and Langeron, the Prussian corps of D'York and Kleist, and about 80,000 strong, has been in four days, beaten,

dispersed, annihilated, without a general action, and without occasioning any loss proportioned to such great results.

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**EIGHTH BULLETIN.**

*Paris, Feb. 18, 1814.*

Her Majesty the Empress Queen and Regent has received the following news from the army, to the 17th in the morning :

“The Emperor, in setting out from Nogent on the 9th to manœuvre upon the enemy's corps, which was advancing by the Ferté and Meaux upon Paris, left the corps of the Duke of Belluno and of General Gérard before Nogent, the 7th corps of the Duke of Reggio at Provins, charged with the defence of the bridges of Bray and Montéreau, and General Pagol near Montéreau and Melun.

“The Duke of Belluno having received information that several divisions of the Austrian army had marched from Troyes on the day of the 10th, to advance upon Nogent, made his corps d'armée repass the Seine, leaving General Bourmont, with 1,200 men at Nogent, for the defence of the town.

“The enemy presented himself on the 11th to enter Nogent. He renewed his attacks all the day, and always in vain: he was briskly repulsed with the loss of 1,500 men, killed or wounded. General Bourmont had barricadoed the streets, indented (*crénelé*) the houses, and taken every measure for a vigorous defence. This general, who is an officer of distinction, was wounded in the knee; Colonel Raviefe replaced him. The enemy renewed the attack on the 12th, but still to no purpose. Our young troops covered themselves with glory. These two days have cost the enemy more than 2000 men.

“The Duke of Belluno having learned that the enemy had passed at Bray, judged proper to cause the bridge of Nogent to be destroyed, and marched upon Nangis. The Duke of Reggio ordered the bridges of Montereau and Melun to be blown up, and retired upon the river Yeres.

“On the 16th, the Emperor arrived upon the Yeres, and marched his head quarters to Guignes.

“The evening of the battle of Vauchamp, (the 14th) the Duke of Ragusa caused the enemy to be attacked at eight o'clock at Etoges; he took

from him nine pieces of cannon, and he has finished the destruction of the Russian division ; there were counted upon this point alone of the field of battle 1,300 dead. The success obtained at the battle of Vauchamp, has been much more considerable than was announced.

“ The exasperation of the inhabitants of this country is at its height. The atrocities committed by the Cossacks surpass all that can be imagined. In their ferocious intoxication they have carried their attempts to women of sixty years, and young girls of twelve ; they have plundered and destroyed the habitations. The peasants, breathing but vengeance, conducted by old retired military men, and armed with muskets of the enemy, collected upon the field of battle, beat the woods, and lay hands upon all that they meet ; they estimate already those which they have taken at more than 2000 ; they have killed several hundreds of them. The Russians frightened, surrender to our columns, to find an asylum in them. The same causes will produce the same effects throughout all the empire ; and those armies which entered, they said, upon our country to carry peace, happiness, the sciences, and the arts thither, shall find on it, their annihilation.

## NINTH BULLETIN.

*Paris, Feb. 20, 1814.*

Her Majesty the Empress Queen and Regent has received the following news of the situation of the armies to the 19th Inst.

“The Duke of Ragusa was marching upon Chalons, where he learned that a column of the Imperial Russian guard, composed of two divisions of grenadiers, was marching upon Montmirail. He faced about, marched upon the enemy, took 300 men, repulsed him upon Sezanne, from whence the movements of the Emperor have forced this corps, to proceed by forced marches towards Troyes. Count Grouchy, with the division of infantry of General Leval, and three divisions of the first corps of cavalry, passed to La Ferté-sous-Jouarre.

“The advanced posts of the Duke of Treviso had entered Soissons.

“On the 17th, at day-break, the Emperor marched from Guignes upon Nangis: the battle of Nangis has been one of the most brilliant.

“The Russian General-in-chief Witgenstein

was at Nangis with three divisions, which formed his corps d'armée. General Pahlen commanding the 13th and 14th Russian divisions, and much cavalry was at Mormant.

"The General of division Girard, an officer of the highest promise, debouched at the village of Mormant upon the enemy. A battalion of the 32d regiment of infantry, always worthy of its ancient reputation, which caused it to be distinguished twenty years ago by the Emperor in the battles of Castiglione, entered the village at the *pas de charge*. Count Valmy, at the head of the dragoons of General Treilhard, coming from Spain, and which arrived at the army, turned the village by its left. Count Milhaud, with the 5th corps of cavalry, turned it on the right. Count Drouett advanced with numerous batteries. In a moment all was decided; the squares formed by the Russian infantry were broken; all was taken, generals and officers: 6000 prisoners, 10,000 muskets, sixteen pieces of cannon, and forty caissons, fell into our hands. General Witgenstein escaped; he, in great haste, saved himself in the direction of Nogent: he had announced to Sieur Billy, with whom he lodged at Provins, that he would be at Paris on the 18th. On returning, he stopped but a quarter of an hour, and had the frankness to say to his host,

‘I have been well beaten; two of my divisions are taken, and in two hours you will see the French.’

“Count Valmy, with the Duke of Reggio, marched upon Provins; the Duke of Tarentum upon Donnemarie; the Duke of Belluno marched upon Villeneuve-le-Comte. General Wrede, with his two Bavarian divisions, was in a position there. General Girard attacked them, and put them to rout: the 8 or 10,000 men who composed the Bavarian corps were lost, if General Sterrber, who commanded a division of dragoons, had charged as he ought to have done; but this general, who has on so many occasions distinguished himself, allowed this one which offered itself to escape him: the Emperor has caused his disapprobation to be conveyed to him. He has not been brought before a council of inquiry, certain, that as at Hoff in Prussia, and at Znaim in Moravia, where he commanded the 10th regiment of cuirassiers, he will merit eulogiums, and repair his fault.

“His Majesty has expressed his satisfaction to Count Valmy; to General Treilhard and his division; to General Girard and his corps d’armée. The Emperor passed the night between the 17th and 18th at the castle of Nangis.



“ On the 18th, at day-break, General Chateau marched upon Montereau. The Duke of Belluno was to have arrived there on the evening of the 17th: he halted at Salins; it was a great fault. The occupation of the bridges of Montereau would have gained the Emperor a day, and enabled him to avail himself of a flagrant error of the Austrian army.

General Chateau arrived before Montereau at ten, *a. m.* but at nine o'clock General Bianchi, commanding the first Austrian corps, had taken a position, with two Austrian divisions and the Wirtemberg division, upon the heights before Montereau, covering the bridges and the town. General Chateau attacked him: not being supported by the other divisions of the corps d'armée, he was repulsed. *Sieur Lecouteul*, who in the morning had been sent upon a reconnaissance, having had his horse killed, was taken: he is an intrepid young man. General Girard supported the battle during the whole morning. The Emperor proceeded there at full gallop. At two, *p. m.* he caused the rising ground (*Plateau*) to be attacked. General Pajol, who marched by the road of Melun, arrived whilst these affairs were going on, executed a brilliant charge, overthrew the enemy, and drove him

into the Seine and the Yonne. The brave 7th chasseurs debouched upon the bridges, which the grape shot from more than sixty pieces of cannon prevented from being blown up, and we at the same time obtained the double advantage of being able to pass the bridges at the *pas de charge*, take 4000 men, four pair of colours, six pieces of cannon from the enemy, and kill 4 or 5000 men. The squadrons *de service* debouched in the plain. General Duhesme, an officer of rare intrepidity and long experience, debouched upon the road of Sens; the enemy was driven in every direction, and our army defiled upon the bridges. The old guard had only time to shew itself; the ardour of the troops of General Girard and General Pajol prevented it from participating in the affair. The inhabitants of Montereau did not remain idle; musket shots, fired from the windows, augmented the enemy's embarrassment. The Austrians and Wirtembergers threw away their arms. A Wirtemberg general has been killed, an Austrian general taken, as well as several colonels; among whom is the colonel of the regiment of Colloredo taken, with his *état-major* and his colours.

“On the same day, Generals Charpentier and Alix debouched from Melun, traversed the forest of Fontainebleau, and drove the Cossacks and an

Austrian brigade from it. General Alix arrived at Moret.

"The Duke of Tarentum arrived before Bray. The Duke of Reggio is pursuing the enemy's parties from Provins towards Nogent.

"The General of brigade Montbrun, who had been charged with 1800 men to defend Moret and the forest of Fontainebleau, abandoned them, and retired upon Essonne, notwithstanding the forest of Fontainebleau might be disputed foot by foot.

"The Major-general has suspended General Montbrun, and sent him before a council of inquiry.

"A loss which has sensibly affected the Emperor, is that of General Chateau. This young officer, who gave the utmost promise, was mortally wounded upon the bridge of Montereau, where he was with the tirailleurs. If he dies, and the report of the surgeons gives little reason for hope, he will at least die, accompanied with the regret of the whole army; a death worthy of envy, and much preferable to existence to every military man, who cannot preserve it but by surviving his reputation, and by stifling the

sentiments with which, in these great circumstances, the defence of the country, and the honour of the French name ought to inspire him.

“ The palace of Fontainebleau has been preserved; the Austrian General Hardeck, who had entered the town, placed sentinels to defend it against the excesses of the Cossacks, who, however, succeeded in pillaging some door-keepers, and carrying away the horsecloths from the stables. The inhabitants do not complain of the Austrians, but of these Tartars, monsters who dishonour the Sovereign who employ them, and the army which protects them. These brigands are covered with gold and jewels: there have been found from eight to ten watches upon those whom the soldiers and peasantry have killed; they are true highwaymen.

“ The Emperor, on his march, met the national guards of Brest and Poitou. He reviewed them. ‘ Show,’ said he to them, ‘ of what the men of the West are capable; they were at all times the faithful defenders of their country, and the firmest support of the monarchy.’

“ His Majesty passed the night of the 10th at

the castle of Surville, situated upon the heights of Montereau.

“ The inhabitants complain greatly of the vexations of the Prince Royal of Wirtemberg.

“ Thus the army of Schwartzenberg found itself touched (*entamée*) by the defeat of Kleist, this corps having always constituted part of it, by the defeat of Witgenstein, by that of the Bavarian corps, of the Wirtemberg division, and of General Bianchi's corps.

“ The Emperor has granted to the three divisions of the old guard (mounted) 500 decorations of the legion of honour: he has granted a similar number to the old foot guard; he has given 100 to the cavalry of General Treilhaud, and a like number to the cavalry of General Milhaud.

“ We have collected a great number of the decorations of St. George, St. Wladimer, St. Anne, taken from the men who covered the different fields of battle.

“ Our loss in the battles of Nangis and Montereau does not exceed 400 men killed and wound-

ed; which, although exceedingly improbable, is nevertheless the exact truth.

“ The town of Epernay having been informed of the success of our army, sounded the tocsin, barricadoed its streets, refused a passage to 2000 men, and made some prisoners. Let this example be every where imitated, and it is presumed that very few men of the enemy's armies will repass the Rhine.

“ The towns of Guise and St. Quintin have also shut their gates, and declared that they would not open them, unless a sufficient force of infantry presented itself. They have not acted like Rheims, which had the weakness to open its gates to 150 Cossacks, and which for eight days has complimented and well treated them. Our annals will preserve the recollection of the populations which have failed in what they owed to themselves and to honour: they, on the contrary, will exalt those which, like Lyons, Chalons-sur-Saône, Tournus, Seps, St. Jean de Losnes, Vitry, Chalons-sur-Marne, have paid their debt to the country, and have risen to that height, which the glory of the French name demanded. Franche-Comté, the Vosges, Alsace, will not forget the moment of the retrograde movement of the allies. The Duke of Casti-

glicone, who has collected an army of chosen troops at Lyons, is marching to block up the enemy's retreat."

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TENTH BULLETIN.

*Paris, Feb. 26, 1814.*

Her Majesty the Empress Queen and Regent has received the following accounts of the situation of the armies on the 24th of February:—

"The Emperor repaired on the 23d; at two o'clock in the afternoon, to the little town of Mery-sur-Seine.

"General Boyer attacked at Mery the remains of the corps of Generals Blucher, Sacken, and York, which had passed the Aube, in order to rejoin the army of Prince Szwartzenberg at Troyes. General Boyer attacked the enemy at the charge step, overthrew him, and made himself master of the town. The enemy, in his rage, set fire to it with so much rapidity, that it was impossible to pass through the flames in order to pursue him.

" From the 22d to the 23d, the Emperor had his head quarters at the little town of Châtres.

" On the 23d, Prince Wenzel Lichtenstein arrived at the head quarters. This new flag of truce was sent by Prince Schwartzenberg to propose an armistice.

" General Milhaud, commanding the cavalry of the 5th corps, has made prisoners 200 cavalry between Pavillon and Troyes.

" General Girard having set out from Sens, and marching by Villehève, l'Archevêque, Villemont, and St. Liebaut, came up with the rear guard of Prince Maurice Lichtenstein, and took from him six pieces of cannon and 600 mounted men, who were surrounded by the brave division of cavalry of General Roussel.

On the 23d our troops invested Troyes on all sides. A Russian aide-de-camp came to the advanced posts to demand time to evacuate the city, otherwise it would be burnt. This consideration arrested the movements of the Emperor.

" The city was evacuated in the night, and we entered it this morning.



“ It is impossible to give an idea of the vexations to which the inhabitants have been a prey during the seventeen days of its occupation by the enemy. It would be equally difficult to describe the enthusiasm and exaltation of feeling which they displayed on the arrival of the Emperor. A mother, who sees her infants snatched from death—slaves, who behold their fetters broken after the most cruel captivity, do not experience a joy more lively than that which the inhabitants of Troyes manifested. Their conduct has been honourable, and worthy of praise. The theatre was open every evening, but neither man nor woman, even of the lowest classes, chose to appear there.

“ The *Sieur Gau*, an old emigrant, and the *Sieur Viderange*, an old *garde-du-corps*, declared in favour of the enemy, and wore the cross of St. Louis: they have been brought before a commission of provost-marshal, and condemned to death; the former has undergone his sentence, and the latter has been condemned for contumacy.

“ The whole population demanded to march. ‘ You had good reason,’ the inhabitants exclaimed, while surrounding the Emperor, ‘ to tell us to rise in mass. Death is preferable to

the vexations, the bad treatment, the cruelties which we have experienced for these seventeen days.'

"In all the villages the inhabitants are in arms: they everywhere put to the sword the enemies whom they meet. The insulated men, the prisoners, voluntarily present themselves to the gens d'armes, whom they no longer regard as keepers, but as protectors.

"General Vincent writes from Chateau-Thierry on the 22d, that the enemy having wished to exact requisitions from the communes of Bazzi, Passy, and Vincelle, the national guards assembled and repelled the enemy, after taking from him and wounding several men.

"The same general writes on the same date, that a party of Russian and Prussian cavalry having approached Chateau-Thierry, he caused them to be attacked by a detachment of the 3d regiment of the guards of honour, commanded by the chief of squadron D'Andlaw, and supported by the national guards of Chateau-Thierry, and of the communes of Bienne and Crezensi. The enemy was chased and put to route; twelve Cossacks and fourteen horses were taken. The national guards were in quest of the re-

mainder of this troop, who saved themselves in the woods. His Majesty has granted three decorations of the legion of honour to the detachment of the 3d regiment of guards of honour, and an equal number to the national guards. Count Valmy marched this day, the 24th, upon Bar-sur-Seine, arrived at St. Paar, he found the rear guard of General Giulay, charged it, put to the route, and took 1200 prisoners. It is probable that Count Valmy will be this evening at Bar-sur-Seine.

“ General Girard has set out from the bridge of La Guillotiere, supported by the Duke of Reggio; he has advanced upon Lusigny, and passed the Barse. General Duhesme has taken a position at Montieramey, near Vandœuvre.

“ Count Flahaut, aide-de-camp of the Emperor Napoleon; Count Ducea, aide-de-camp of the Emperor of Austria; Count Schouvaloff, aide-de-camp of the Emperor of Russia; and General Rauch, chief of the engine corps of the King of Prussia, have assembled at Lusigny, in order to treat of the conditions of a suspension of arms.

“ Thus in the day of the 24th, the capital of Champagne has been delivered, and we have taken about 2000 prisoners, of whom a consi-

derable number are officers. There have been also found in the hospitals of the city a thousand wounded officers and soldiers, abandoned by the enemy.

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ELEVENTH BULLETIN.

*Paris, Feb. 28, 1814.*

Her Majesty the Empress Queen and Regent has received the following account respecting the situation of the armies to the 27th instant:

“ On the 26th the head quarters were at Troyes. The Duke of Reggio was at Bar-sur-Aube with General Girard, and the second corps of cavalry, commanded by Count Valmy.

“ The Duke of Tarentum had his head quarters at Massy-l'Eveque, and his advanced posts at Chatillon: he was marching upon the Aube and upon Clairvaux.

“ The Duke of Castiglione, who has under his command an army of 40,000 men, mostly chosen troops, was in motion.

“ General Marchand was at Chamberry, Ge-

neral Desaix under the walls of Geneva, and General Musnier had entered Macon.

“Bourg and Nantua were also in our power. The Austrian General Bubna, who had threatened Lyons, was retreating on all sides. On the 20th his loss was already estimated at 1500 men, of whom 600 are prisoners.

“The Prince of Moscow is at Arcis-sur-Aube; the Duke of Belluno at Plancy; the Duke of Padua at Nogent. Troops are marching in the rear of the remains of the corps of Blucher, Sacken, York, and Kleist, who had received reinforcements from Soissons, and were manœuvring on the corps of the Duke of Ragusa, who was at La Ferté-Gaucher. General Duhesme has taken Bar-sur-Aube at the point of the bayonet, and made some prisoners, among whom are several Bavarian officers.

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#### TWELFTH BULLETIN.

*Paris, March 11, 1814.*

Her Majesty the Empress Queen and Regent

has received the following intelligence of the situation of the armies to the 9th instant :—

“ The army of General Blücher, composed of the wrecks of the corps of General Sacken, Kleist, and York, retired, after the battles of Montmirail and Vauchamp, by Rheims upon Chalons. It there received the two last divisions of the corps of General Langeron, which had remained before Mentz. The loss had been such, that it was obliged to reduce its *cadres* half, though several convoys of recruits from its reserves had arrived.

“ The army, called the army of the North, composed of four divisions, under the orders of General Winzingerode and Woronzoff, and one Prussian division, under the orders of General Bulow, replaced, at Chalons and Rheims, the army of Silesia.

“ The latter passed the Aube at Arcis, whilst the Prince of Schwartzemberg lined the right of the Seine, and, in consequence of the action of Nangis and Montereau, evacuated all the country between the Seine and the Yonne.

“ On the 22d of February General Blücher appeared before Mery: he had already passed

the bridge, when the general of division, Boyer, marched against him with the bayonet, overthrew him, and drove him to the other side of the river; but the enemy set fire to the bridge and the little town of Mery, and the conflagration was so violent, that for forty-eight hours it was impossible to pass.

“ On the 24th the Duke of Reggio proceeded against Vandœuvres, and the Duke of Tarentum upon Bar-sur-Seine.

“ It appears that the army of Silesia had marched on the left of the Aube to join the Austrian army and fight a general battle; but the enemy having renounced this project, General Blucher repassed the Aube, and directed his course upon Sézanne.

“ The Duke of Ragusa watched this corps, checked its march, and retreated before it without any loss. He arrived on the 25th at Ferté Gaucher, and on the 26th effected, at Ferté Jouarre, his junction with the Duke of Treviso, who observed the right of the Marne and the corps of the army called the army of the North, which were at Chalons and Rheims.

“ On the 27th General Sachen moved upon

Meaux, and appeared before the bridge placed at the further end of Meaux, upon the road to Nangis, which had been cut. He was received with grape-shot. Some of his stragglers advanced to the bridge of Lagny.

“ However, the Emperor left Troyes on the 27th, slept the same night at the village of Herbesse; on the 28th at the castle of Esternay, and on the 1st of March at Jouarre.

“ The army of Silesia was thus extremely exposed; it had no other part to take but to pass the Marne. It threw bridges over it, and moved upon the Ourcq.

“ General Kleist passed the Ourcq, and proceeded upon Meaux by Varede. The Duke of Treviso came up with him on the 28th, in position at the village of Gué à Treme, on the left bank of the Têrouenné: he attacked him manfully; General Christiani, commanding a division of the old guard, covered himself with glory. The enemy was closely pursued for several leagues; some hundreds were taken, and a great number remained on the field of battle.

“ At the same time the enemy had passed the



Ourcq at Lisy: the Duke of Ragusa threw them on the other side.

“The retrograde movement of the army of Blucher was decided. All filed off upon Ferte-Milon and Soissons.

“The Emperor arrived early on the 4th at Fismes; prisoners were made, and several baggage waggons were taken.

“The city of Soissons had twenty pieces of cannon, and was in a condition to defend itself. The Dukes of Ragusa and Treviso proceeded upon that city to pass the Aisne, whilst the Emperor marched upon Mery. The enemy's army was in the most dangerous position; but the general commanding at Soissons, by an unaccountable cowardice, abandoned the place at four in the afternoon of the 3d, by a capitulation, stiling itself honourable, because the enemy permitted him to leave the city with his troops and artillery, and to retire with his garrison and artillery to Villars Coterets. At the moment the enemy's army thought itself lost, it was informed that the bridge of Soissons was in its power, and had not been destroyed. The general who commanded in the city, and the members of the Council of Defence, are ordered before a commission of enquiry.

They appear so much the more culpable, because, during the whole of the 2d and 3d, they had heard from the city the cannonading of our army, which was approaching Soissons, and because a battalion of the Vistula, which was in the place, and which quitted it with tears in their eyes, had given the greatest proofs of intrepidity.

“ General Corbineau, aide-de-camp of the Emperor, and the general of cavalry, Laferriere, had proceeded upon Rheims, which they entered at four in the morning of the 5th, by turning an enemy's corps of four battalions, which covered the town, and the troops of which were made prisoners. Every thing in Rheims was taken.

“ On the 5th, the Emperor slept at Bery-au-Bac. General Nansouty forced a passage by the bridge of Bery, routed a division of cavalry which covered it, obtained possession of two pieces of cannon, and took 300 cavalry, among whom was Colonel Prince Gagarin, who commanded a brigade.

“ The enemy's army was divided into two portions; the eight Russian divisions of Sachen and of Winzingerode, had taken a position on the heights of Craone, and the corps of Prussians on the heights of Laon.

“ On the 6th the Emperor came to sleep at Corbani. The heights of Craone were attacked and carried by two battalions of the guards. The officer of ordinance, Caraman, a young officer of experience, turned the right at the head of a battalion. The Prince of Moskwa marched on the farm of Urtubre. The enemy retired and took position on a height, which was reconnoitered on the 7th, at day-break. This gave rise to the battle of Craone. The position was fine; the enemy having his right and left supported on ravines, and a third ravine in his front: he defended the only passage, a hundred toises broad, which joined his position to the plateau of Craone.

“ The Duke of Belluno marched with two divisions of the young guards to the Abbey of Vaucler, to which the enemy had set fire. He drove them from it, and passed the defile which the enemy defended with sixty pieces of cannon. General Drouet passed it with several batteries. At the same moment the Prince of Moskwa passed the ravine on the left, and debouched on the enemy's right. The cannonade was very heavy during an hour. General Grouchy debouched with his cavalry. General Nansouty passed the ravine on the enemy's right, with two divisions of cavalry. The defile being passed,

and the enemy forced in his position, he was pursued four leagues, and cannonaded by 80 pieces of cannon with grape-shot, which caused him to sustain a great loss. The plateau by which he had retreated having also ravines on the right and left, the cavalry could not get up to attack him.

“The Emperor moved his head-quarters to Bray. On the next day, the 8th, we pursued the enemy to the defile of Urcel, and on the same day entered Soissons, where they had left a bridge equipage.

“The battle of Craone is extremely glorious to our arms: the enemy lost six generals, and estimate their loss at from 5 to 6,000 men: our's has been 800 killed or wounded.

“The Duke of Belluno was wounded by a ball; General Grouchy, and General Laferriere, a cavalry officer of great distinction, were also wounded, in debouching at the head of their troops.

“General Belliard has taken the command of the cavalry.

“The result of all these operations, is a loss

to the enemy of from 10 to 12,000 men, and 30 pieces of cannon.

“The intention of the Emperor is to manœuvre with the army upon the Aisne.”

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#### THIRTEENTH BULLETIN.

*Paris, March 14, 1814.*

The Empress Queen and Regent, has received the following news of the situation of the armies to the 12th instant:—

“The day after the battle of Craone (the 8th) the enemy was pursued by the Prince of Moskwa to the village of Ettonville. General Woronzoff, with 7 or 8,000 men, guarded this position, which was very difficult to be got at, because the road which leads to it runs for a league between two impracticable marshes.

“Baron Gourgault, an officer of distinguished merit, set off at eleven at night from Chavignon, with two battalions of the old guard, turned the position, and proceeded by Challevois upon Chivy. He reached the enemy, whom he attacked with the bayonet, at one in the morning. The Russians were awakened with the cries of

*Vive l'Empereur*, and pursued to Laon. The Prince of Moskwa debouched by the defile.

“ On the 9th, at day-break, we reconnoitèred the enemy, who had joined the Prussian corps : the position was such as to be deemed unattackable. We took a position.

“ The Duke of Ragusa, who had slept on the 8th at Corbone, appeared at two in the afternoon at Veslud, overthrew the enemy's advanced guard, attacked the villages of Althius, which he carried, and was successful during the whole day. At half-past six he took up a position ; at seven the enemy made a dash of cavalry, one league in the rear, where the Duke of Reggio had a park of reserve. The Duke of Ragusa proceeded there quickly, but the enemy had time to carry off fifteen pieces of cannon. A great part of the *personnel* was saved.

“ On the same day General Charpentier, with his division of the young guard, carried the village of Clacy. On the next day the enemy attacked this village seven times, and were seven times repulsed. General Charpentier lost 400 prisoners. The enemy left the avenues covered with his dead. The Emperor's head quarters were on the 9th and 10th at Chavignon.

**“ His Majesty, judging that it was impossible to attack the heights of Laon, fixed his headquarters, on the 11th, at Soissons. The Duke of Ragusa occupied, on the same day, Bery-au-Bac.**

**“ General Corbineau praises the good dispositions of the inhabitants of Rheims.**

**“ On the 7th, at eleven in the morning, General St. Priest, commanding a Russian division, appeared before Rheims, and summoned it to surrender. General Corbineau replied with cannon. General DeFrance then arrived with his division of guards of honour: he made a fine charge, and drove off the enemy. General St. Priest set fire to two great manufactories and to fifty houses which were on the outside of the town; a conduct worthy of a turncoat. In all times turncoats have been the most cruel enemies of their country.**

**“ Soissons has suffered much: the inhabitants have conducted themselves in the most honourable manner. There are no praises too great for the regiment of the Vistula, which formed the garrison; there are no praises which the regiment of the Vistula deems too great for the**

inhabitants. His Majesty has granted this brave corps thirty decorations of the legion of honour.

“ The plan of the enemy’s campaign appears to have been a kind of general *houra*—dash upon Paris. Neglecting all the strong places of Flanders, and only observing Bergen-op-Zoom and Antwerp with troops inferior by half in number to the garrisons of those towns, the enemy penetrated upon Avesnes. Neglecting the places of the Ardennes, Meziare, Rocroi, Phillippeville, Givet, Charlemont, Montmedy, Maestrecht, Vanloo, and Juliers, they passed by impracticable roads to arrive upon Avesnes and Rethel. These places communicate, are not observed, and the garrisons alarm the rear of the enemy considerably. Whilst General St. Priest burned Rhimes, his brother was arrested by the inhabitants, and sent off prisoner to Charlemont. Neglecting all the places of the Meuse, the enemy advanced by Bar and St. Dizier. The garrison of Verdun is come quite to St. Mihiel. Near Bar, a Russian General, who remained some moments with fifteen men, after the departure of his troops, was killed with his escort by the peasants, in revenge for the atrocities he had ordered. Metz pushes its sorties to Nancy; Strasburg, and the other places of Alsace, being observed but by small parties, there is free ingress and egress,



and provisions arrive in abundance. The troops of the garrison of Mentz go as far as Spire. The departments having hastened to complete the corps of battalions which are in all those places, where they are armed, equipped, and exercised, we may say that there are several armies in the rear of the enemy. His position cannot but become more dangerous daily. We see by the reports that have been intercepted, that the regiments of Cossacks, whose force was 250 men, have lost upwards of 120, without having been in action, but only by the hostilities of the peasants.

“ The Duke of Castiglione manœuvres on the Rhone, in the department of the Aisne, and in Franche-Comté. Generals Dessai and Marchand have driven the enemy from Savoy. Fifteen thousand men are passing the Alps, to reinforce the Duke of Castiglione.

“ The Viceroy has obtained great successes at Borghetto. and has driven the enemy upon the Adige.

“ General Grenier, who set out from Placentia on the 2d of March, beat the enemy at Parma, and chased him beyond the Taro.

“ The French troops that occupied Rome, Civita Vecchia, and Tuscany, are entering Piedmont to pass the Alps.

“ The exasperation of the population increases daily in proportion to the atrocities which are committed by these hordes, more barbarous still than their climate, who dishonour the human race, and whose military existence has for its object pillage and crime, instead of honour and renown.

“ The conferences of Lusigny for an armistice have failed. We could not agree upon the line of demarcation. We were agreed upon the points of occupation to the north and east; but the enemy wished not only to extend his line upon the Saone and the Rhone, but to enclose Savoy in it. We replied to this unjust pretension, by proposing to adopt on this line the *status quo*, and to leave the Duke of Castiglione and Count Bubna to settle it upon the line of their advanced posts. This was rejected. It was then necessary to renounce the idea of an armistice for a fortnight, which was attended with more inconveniences than advantages. The Emperor, besides, did not think he had a right to place a numerous population under the iron yoke from which they had been delivered. He would not consent to abandon our communications with Italy, which the enemy had so often and so

vainly attempted to intercept, when our troops were not yet united.

“ The weather has been constantly very cold ; the *bivouacs* are very distressing during this season ; but each party has been exposed to the same sufferings. It appears even that sickness makes great havoc in the enemy’s army, whilst ours has but few sick.”

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#### FOURTEENTH BULLETIN.

*Paris, March 16, 1814.*

Her Majesty the Empress Queen and Regent, has received the following intelligence of the situation of the armies to the 14th :—

“ General St. Priest, commanding in chief the eight Russian corps, had been for several days in position at Chalons-sur-Marne, having an advanced guard at Sillery. This corps, composed of three divisions, which ought to have formed eighteen regiments and thirty-six battalions, had actually only eight regiments or sixteen battalions, making about 5 or 6000 men.

“ General Jagow, commanding the last column of the Prussian reserve, and having under his orders four regiments of the Landwehr of Prussian Pomerania and the Marks, forming sixteen battalions, or 7000 men, who had been em-

ployed in the sieges of Torgau and Wittenberg, joined the corps of General St. Priest, whose force must therefore have been about 15 or 16,000 men, cavalry and artillery included.

“General St. Priest resolved to surprise Rheims, in which was stationed General Corbineau, at the head of the national guards, and three battalions of the levy en mass, with 100 cavalry and eight pieces of cannon. General Corbineau had placed General Defrance’s division of cavalry at Chalons-sur-Vesle, two leagues from the town.

“On the 12th, at five in the morning, General St. Priest presented himself at the different gates. He made his principal attack on the gate of Laon, which the superiority of his numbers enabled him to force. General Corbineau operated his retreat with three battalions of the levy en mass, and his 700 cavalry, and fell back upon Chalons-sur-Vesle. The national guard and the inhabitants behaved very well in these circumstances.

“On the 13th, at four o’clock in the evening, the Emperor was on the heights of the windmill, a league from Rheims. The Duke of Ragusa formed the advanced guard. The General of Division, Merlin, attacked, surrounded, and took several battalions of Prussian Landwehr. Ge-

neral Sebastiani, commanding two divisions of cavalry, advanced upon the town. One hundred pieces of cannon were engaged on the one side and on the other. The enemy crowned the heights in front of Rheims.

“ While the attack was making, the bridges of St. Brice were repaired, in order to turn the town. General Defrance made a superb charge with the guards of honour, who covered themselves with glory, particularly General Count Segur, commanding the 3d regiment, who charged between the town and the enemy, whom they drove into the suburbs, and from whom they took 1000 cavalry and his artillery.

“ Meanwhile General Count Krusinski, having intercepted the communication from Rheims to Bery-au-Bac, the enemy abandoned the town, flying in disorder on all sides. The results of this day, which did not cost us 100 men, are twenty-two pieces of cannon, 5000 prisoners, 100 artillery and baggage waggons.

“ The same battery of light artillery which killed General Moreau, before Dresden, mortally wounded General St. Priest, who had come at the head of the Tartars of the desert to ravage our beautiful country.

“ The Emperor entered Rheims at one in the morning, amidst the acclamations of the inhabitants of that great city, and has established his head quarters there. The enemy is retreating, partly on Chalons, partly on Rethel, and partly on Laon. He is pursued in all directions.

“ The 10th regiment of hussars, as well as the 3d regiment of the guards of honour, particularly distinguished itself. General Count Segur has been severely wounded, but his life is not in danger.”

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FIFTEENTH BULLETIN.

*Paris, March 22, 1814.*

Her Majesty the Empress Queen and Regent has received the following intelligence of the situation of the armies to the 20th instant :

“ The Russian General Witgenstein, with his corps of the army, was at Villenoxe. He had thrown bridges at Pont, where he had passed the Seine, and he marched upon Provins.

“ The Duke of Tarentum had united his troops at that town. On the 16th, the enemy manœuvred to outflank his left. The Duke of Reggio engaged his artillery, and the whole day passed in cannonade. The movement of the enemy appeared to be upon Provins and Nangis.

“ On the other side, the Prince of Schwartzberg, the Emperor Alexander, and the King of Prussia, were at Arcis-sur-Aube.

“ The corps of the Prince Royal of Wirtemberg had moved upon Villars aux Cornielles.

“ General Platow, with his 3000 barbarians, had thrown himself upon Fere Champenoise and Sezanne.

“ The Emperor of Austria had just arrived from Chaumont at Troyes.

“ The Prince of the Moskwa entered Chalons-sur-Marne on the 16th.

“ The Emperor slept on the 17th, at Epernay; on the 18th, at Fere Champenoise; and on the 19th, at Plancy.

“ General Sebastiani, at the head of his cavalry, came up with General Platow at Fere Champenoise, overthrew him, and pursued him to the Aube, making some prisoners from him.

“ On the 19th, in the afternoon, the Emperor passed the Aube, at Plancy. At five in the afternoon he passed the Seine at a ford, and turned Mery, which was occupied.

“ At seven o'clock at night General Letort, with the chasseurs of the guard, arrived at the village of Chatres, cutting off the road from Nogent to Troyes, but the enemy was already in retreat; yet General Letort came up with his park of pontoons, which had served for the bridge at Pont-sur-Seine, took them all, and 100 baggage waggons; he made some prisoners.

“ On the 17th, General Wrede retrograded rapidly upon Arcis-sur-Aube. In the night of the 17th, the Emperor of Russia retired upon Troyes. On the 18th, the Allied Sovereigns evacuated Troyes, and proceeded in all haste upon Bar-sur-Aube.

“ His Majesty the Emperor arrived at Arcis-sur-Aube on the 20th, in the morning.”

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**LAST BULLETIN OF NAPOLEON BUONAPARTE.**

*The following was posted up at Rennes on the 5th April, 1814.*

“ The bulletin composed at Troyes could not appear in the Paris Journals, the enemy's army having marched upon that city. The Emperor directed forced marches from Troyes on Paris. On the 31st, his Majesty was at Fontainebleau: there he learned that the enemy, having arrived



at Paris twenty-four hours before him, occupied Paris, after having encountered a strong resistance, in which he suffered great loss.

“ The occupation of the capital by the enemy is a misfortune which deeply afflicts the heart of his Majesty, from which, however, there is nothing to apprehend. The presence of the Emperor and his army at the gates of Paris will prevent the enemy from committing his usual excesses in so populous a city, which it is impossible to retain without rendering his position extremely dangerous. Besides, it prevents him from detaching any thing but light troops for infesting the neighbouring departments.

“ The corps of the Dukes of Treviso and Ragusa, and that of General Compans, which had joined for the defence of the capital, were united between Essone and Paris, where his Majesty had taken a position with the whole army arrived from Troyes.”

*Rennes, 5th April, 1814.*

FINIS.



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